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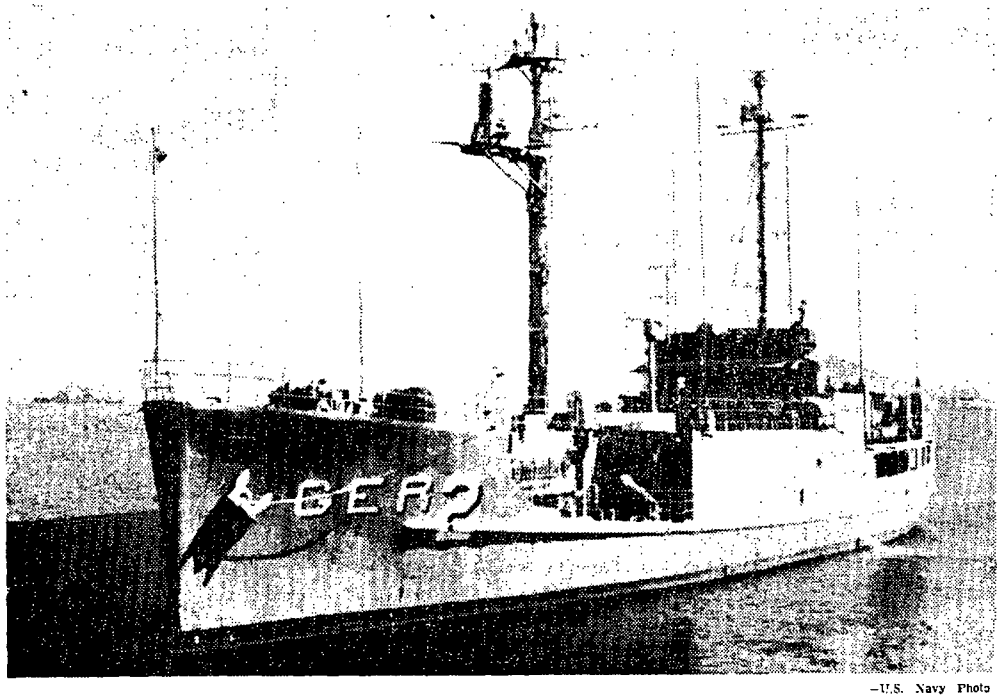
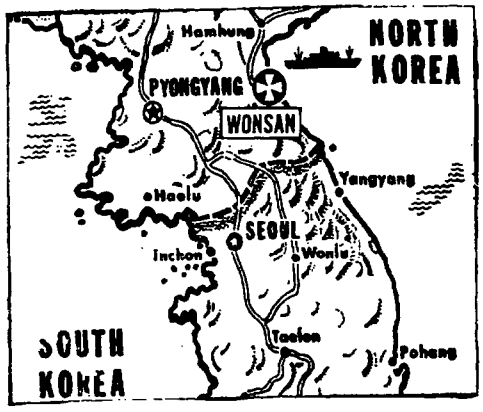
N. Korean Patrol Boats Seize U.S. Spy Ship With 83 Aboard



—U.S. Navy Photo

This is the USS Pueblo seized by the North Koreans today.



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EVENING

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U.S.S. Pueblo Believed Taken Into Red Port

Communists Also Seen Stepping Up Attacks in South

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN
Star Staff Writer

A U.S. Navy intelligence ship with 83 men aboard was captured by North Korean patrol boats today amid signs of stepped-up Communist military activity in South Korea.

The Navy ship apparently was taken to a North Vietnam port.

The Defense Department said the USS Pueblo, a 179-foot "intelligence collection auxiliary ship" carrying two 50 caliber machine guns, was surrounded by four North Korean patrol boats and boarded by an armed party while MIG aircraft flew overhead.

The incident took place shortly before midnight last night EST (about 2 p.m. Tuesday, Korean time) about 25 miles off the North Korean coast, the Pentagon said. This would have placed the Pueblo in international—or open—waters.

The Pueblo radioed that it was being forced to proceed to the North Korean port of Wonsan, and it was presumed that it was being held there.

The Pueblo radioed that it did not fire its weapons. There were unconfirmed reports, however, that there were some wounded aboard.

"Utmost Gravity"

Secretary of State Dean Rusk called seizure on international waters "a matter of utmost gravity."

Rusk said the United States was following up through available diplomatic channels to secure the immediate release of the ship and the crew.

First word from North Korea on that incident was a broadcast from Pyongyang Radio claiming that North Korea had captured "an armed spy boat of the U.S. imperialist aggressor force which intruded way into the territorial waters of the republic and was carrying out hostile activities."

Coincidental with the capture of the Pueblo Radio Pyongyang also broadcast claims that "armed guerrilla units" had attacked sentry posts of the U.S. 2nd Infantry in South Korea. There was no immediate confirmation here, but there were reports from Seoul of sporodic raids in the northern part of South Korea.

Moscow's Aid Asked

State Department sources said the Soviet Union has been asked to convey a U.S. demand for the immediate release of the ship and crew.

It is also expected that the Military Armistice Commission which is set up to supervise the 1953 Korean armistice will be called to discuss not,

See SHIP, Page A-4

SHIP

N. Koreans Seize U.S. Vessel, 83 Men

Continued From Page A-1

only the ship incident but also the rash of Communist military activity in South Korea.

The Message

Many details on the capture are lacking, but according to the Defense Department announcement, this is what happened:

At approximately 10 p.m. EST yesterday a North Korean patrol boat approached the Pueblo about 25 miles off the North Korean coast.

Using international flag signals, the North Korean boat asked the Pueblo to identify its nationality. The Pueblo identified itself as a U.S. ship.

Continuing to use flag signals, the patrol boat said "Heave to, or I will open fire on you."

The Pueblo replied: "I am in international waters."

The patrol boat circled the Pueblo.

About an hour later, three additional patrol craft appeared.

One of them ordered: "Follow in my wake; I have a pilot aboard."

The four ships closed in on the Pueblo, taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter.

Red Planes Overhead

Two MIG aircraft were also sighted by the Pueblo's crew circling off the starboard bow.

One of the patrol craft began backing toward the bow of the Pueblo with fenders rigged. An armed boarding party was standing on the bow.

The Pueblo radioed at 11:45 p.m. EST that she was being boarded by North Koreans, the Defense Department said.

At 12:10 a.m. EST today the Pueblo reported that she had been requested to follow the North Korean ship into Wonsan and that she had not used any weapons.

The final message from the Pueblo was sent at 12:32 a.m. It reported that it had come to "all stop" and that it was "going off the air."

The Pueblo had reported that the boarding took place at 127 degrees, 54.3 minutes east longitude; 39 degrees, 25 minutes north latitude.

The Ship

The Pueblo has a complement of 83 men, including six officers, 75 enlisted men and two civilians.

It is designated as the AGR-2 and is described as a modified light cargo ship (AKL). The Pueblo is 179 feet long and 33 feet wide with a displacement of 906 tons. It has a 10.2 foot draft. Its maximum speed is 12.2 knots.

Nebraskan Is Skipper

The skipper of the Pueblo was identified by the Pentagon as Commander Lloyd Mark Bucher of Lincoln, Neb.

Navy sources said the term "auxiliary" used in the ship's identification serves to indicate that it is an auxiliary to the fleet and not a combat ship.

It is said to have various electronic and oceanographic equipment aboard, presumably allowing it to monitor radio traffic as well as to take soundings on the possible presence of submarines and other ships in the area.

The incident—the gravest sea confrontation since the Gulf of Tonkin attacks in August 1964—is the latest in a series of provocations from North Korea over the past year.

Just a day before, a band of North Koreans sneaked into Seoul and apparently tried to storm the Blue House, the home of the South Korean chief of state, but were detected and driven off in a gun battle.

There is no solid information on why the North Koreans have decided to increase the tempo of their activity after years of generally quiet adherence to the 1953 armistice.

North Korean leader Kim Il-Song, however, has constantly called for broad international support for North Vietnam, and it could be that this is a diversionary effort to try and weaken the U.S. effort in Vietnam.

The North Koreans are presumably embarrassed by the fact that South Korea has contributed two divisions to the allied effort in Vietnam while they have done nothing even comparable. The North Koreans are said to have trained some North Vietnamese pilots and supplied some aircraft.

Memories of June 8

In a way, today's incident brought memories of another crisis, when another U.S. ship, the Liberty, was attacked by Israeli planes and torpedo boats in the Mediterranean last June 8—during the Arab-Israeli war—and 34 Americans were killed and over 100 others injured.

The White House "hot line" to Moscow was used during that crisis.

The Liberty, a communications ship, was 15 miles north of the Sinai Peninsula, the Pentagon said, when the attack took place.

Israel later offered to make amends for the "tragic incident," in which the Israelis claimed no flag was being flown by the vessel.

The Defense Department shortly after the incident said that the U.S. could not accept an "attack upon a clearly marked noncombatant U.S. naval ship in international waters as 'plausible' under any circumstances whatsoever."

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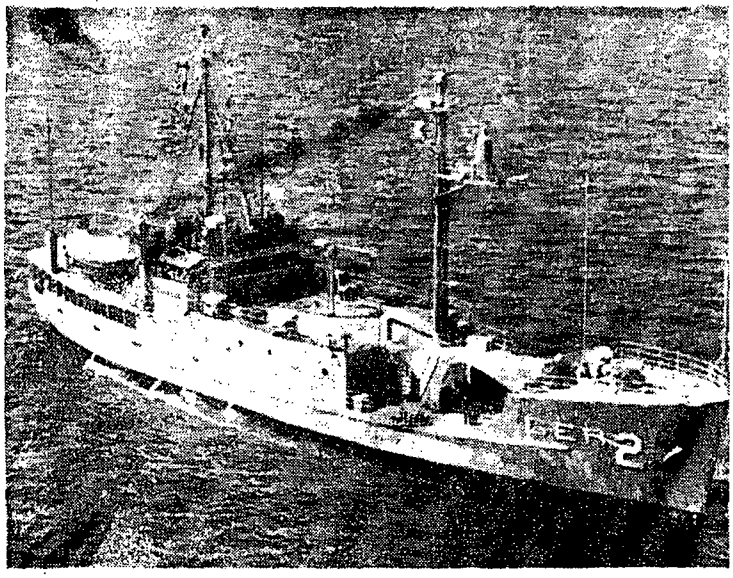
Korean Reds Seize

U.S. Ship, 83 Men



Associated Press

The USS Pueblo is shown under way in this stock Navy photo. The Pueblo was seized yesterday by North Korean patrol boats and taken to the port of Wonsan.

United Press International

CMDR. L. M. BUCHER . . . Pueblo's captain

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Carrier Enterprise Leads a Task Fleet Ordered Into Area

A U.S. naval task force led by the nuclear carrier Enterprise was ordered toward North Korean waters early yesterday after four Communist gunboats captured an American intelligence ship and its 83 crewmen.

The North Korean boats forced the intelligence ship, the USS Pueblo, into the port city of Wonsan after the American vessel was captured and boarded by Communist crewmen.

Capture of the Pueblo took place under a cover of Mig fighter planes in international waters 16 nautical miles off the North Korean coast, according to the Defense Department. The North Koreans claimed the ship wash within its 12-mile territorial limit.

In the aftermath of the spisode the United States informed South Korea last night that it had decided to take "certain initial measures" in response to the seizure of the Pueblo. Ambassador William J. Porter conveyed the word to South Korean Premier Chung IlKwon in Seoul.

Steaming toward the crisis scene alongside the Enterprise is the nuclear-powered frigate Truxtrun, an unspecified number of destroyers and supply ships summoned from Japanese ports. Reliable sources reported that air cover for the armada will be drawn, as necessary, from fields in Japan.

Moving at 20 to 30 knots, the task force was due by nightfall off North Korea's eastern coast near where the USS Pueblo was seized by the North Korean Navy.

The Defense Department's deputy information chief, Daniel Z. Henkin, reported last night that not until the actual boarding had begun—an hour and 45 minutes after the first patrol boat's appearance—did the Pueblo's skipper radio for help.

In the Defense Department view, the Puebbo's captain acted entirely on his own in electing to heave to and surrender without a fight. At no time, Henkin said, did the skipper ask permission to scuttle his ship rather than see it fall into North Korean hands.

Henkin said the skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, sent two messages indicating that four crewmen were wounded, one critically.

Although North Korea claims its territorial waters extend outward 12 miles, the United States only recognizes a three-mile limit. The geographic coordinates released by the Pentagon indicate the Pueblo was approximately 15 miles from the mouth of the Wonsan harbor when the North Korean patrol boats closed in on her.

Reliable sources reported the Pueblo lay quiet with engines off as first one, then three additional patrol boats took up positions around her. With her sophisticated electronic and acoustic monitoring devices, the intelligence ship probably heard the North Korean craft as they approached in broad daylight.

It is not known whether the Pueblo's crew had a chance to destroy the ship's top-secret intelligence equipment before their capture. However, almost all such devices feature a "destruct" switch that triggers a self-contained charge of explosive for use during emergencies.

President Johnson was awakened between 2 and 2:30 a.m. yesterday, according to White House Press Secretary George Christian. He said that presidential aide Walt W. Rostow had done so to give him an "advisory" as to what had occurred. At that hour, the ship had gone off the air and been taken to the North Korean port of Wonsan.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk was alerted through the State Department's operations center around midnight, Washington time. Assistant Secretary William P. Bundy, whose area is all of the Far East, heard the news at 12:30 a.m.

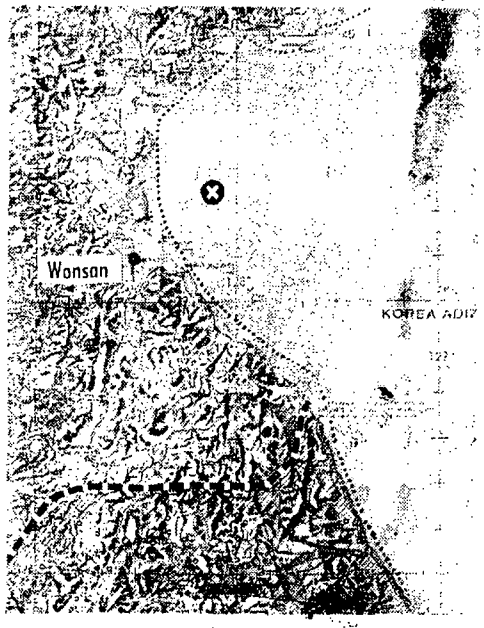
There was no word last night as to when Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara or other top Pentagon officials were alerted or whether they had given the ship any orders.

Not since Feb. 4, 1862, has a U.S. naval vessel been captured by hostile forces while afloat. On that date, a Union cutter, damaged by Confederate shore fire, was captured in Galveston harbor.

But naval historians could not cite a single instance of an American ship's being hijacked on the high seas by a foreign power with which this Nation was not actively at war.

In recent years, however, U.S intelligence ships operating off the North Korean coast have been harassed by the North Korean navy. This caused speculation yesterday that the Pueblo's skipper

See PUEBLO, A6, Col. 1



This detailed U.S. Air Force map shows the spot where U.S. officials say the USS Pueblo was captured in international waters by North Korean patrol boats. The heavy dotted line across Korea is the 1953 cease-fire line between North and South Korea.

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might not have suspected, until too late, that the patrol craft intended more than a minor provocation.

In a terse statement, the Defense Department released the following account of the Pueblo's capture:

"At approximately 10 p.m. EST (Monday) a North Korean patrol boat approached the Pueblo. Using international signals, it requested the Pueblo's nationality. The Pueblo identified herself as a U.S. ship. Continuing to use flag signals, the patrol boat said: 'Heave to or I will open fire on you.' The Pueblo replied 'I am in international waters.' The patrol boat circled the Pueblo."

(It was learned yesterday that one or more of the Korean craft carried batteries of 40-mm. cannon, more than a match for the Pueblo's 50-cal. machine guns.)

The Pentagon announcement continued:

"Approximately one hour later, three additional patrol craft appeared. One of them ordered: 'Follow in my wake; I have a pilot aboard.' The four ships closed in on the Pueblo, taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter. Two Mig aircraft were also sighted by the Pueblo circling off the starboard bow.

"One of the patrol craft began backing toward the bow of the Pueblo with fenders rigged. An armed boarding party was standing on the bow.

"The Pueblo radioed at 11:45 p.m. that she was being boarded by North Koreans.

"At 12:10 a.m. EST today (Tuesday), the Pueblo reported that she had been requested to follow the North Korean ships into Wonsan and that she had not used any weapons.

"The final message from the Pueblo was sent at 12:32 a.m. It reported that it had come to 'all stop' and that it was 'going off the air.'"

The North Korean radio promptly charged the Pueblo was a "spy ship" engaged in "hostile activities" inside its territorial waters. Radio Pyongyang also linked the Pueblo's presence off Wonsan to recent raids on the South Korean capital of Seoul by unidentified insurgents.

North Korea alleged that as a result of the raids, which it said was carried out by South Korean guerrillas, U.S. and South Korean authorities had gone into a "fit of frenzy." The guerrillas, Radio Pyongyang said, had fired "thousands of rounds" of small arms and artillery across the demilitarized zone during their alleged attempt to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung Hee.

Barring a communications breakdown, U.S. 5th Air Force headquarters near Tokyo had at least one hour and 45 minutes notice that the Pueblo was in serious trouble. Even through its captain did not request immediate aid, that much time elopsed between the appearance of the first North Korean patrol boat and the boarding of the Puebls.

Yet U.S. fighters failed to rescue the beleaguered ship, raising the question, why?

The U.S. 5th Air Force, whose jurisdiction includes Korea, customarily rotates fighter squadrons from Japan into and out of South Korea on temporary tours of duty. More often than not, these squadrons are based at K-55, an air base near the village of Osan-ni, about 30 nautical miles south of Seoul.

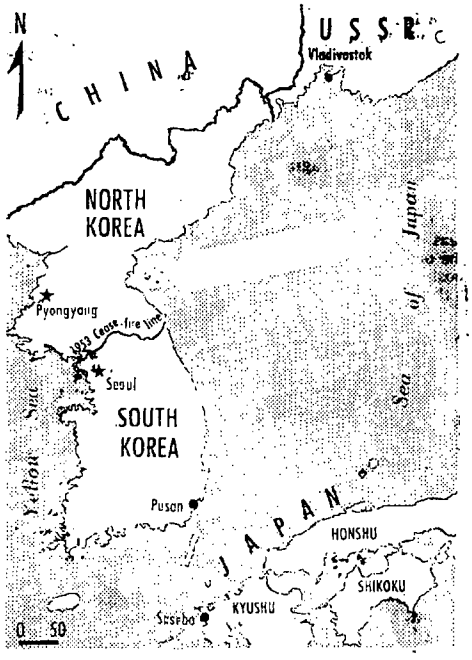
As fighters fly, K-55 is just 17 minutes from the spot where the Pueblo encountered trouble. Other major air bases —K-8 at Kunsan and K-2 at Taegu—are less than half an hour by jet from the same spot.

K-55, moreover, can communicate with the powerful U.S. radar station perched atop a bluff on Paengnyong-do Island in the Yellow Sea. "P-Y-Do," the site's nickname, sits a mile south of the 38th parallel off the west coast of North Korea.

It is understood this Ground Control Intercept radar is powerful enough to reach across North Korea and pick up hostile aircraft in the area being patrolled by the Pueblo. Yet there is no evidence U.S. fighters were scrambled to ward off the North Korean patrol boats and their Mig-17 fighter cover.

The capture of the Pueblo was reminiscent of the 1964 Tonkin Gulf incident in which North Vietnamese torpedo boats reportedly attacked two U.S. destroyers. President Johnson retaliated by ordering U.S. fighter-bombers to destroy the North Vietnamese bases from which such craft operated.

This raid, the first on North Vietnam, preceded by six months the beginning of sustained bombing attacks.



Jan. 24, 1968 Washington Post Map by Steve Offutt

Map shows approximate position of the USS Pueblo when it was seized by North Korean patrol boats and taken to the port of Wonsan. The nuclear carrier Enterprise, which had just left Sasebo, Japan, and other U.S. vessels were reported moving toward North Korea.

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LBJ to Try Diplomacy First To Free Ship and Its Crew

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Johnson has available both diplomatic and military options in his efforts to secure the return of the American ship and its crew seized by North Korea.

Administration officials stressed last night that he had made no decision on what step he now has the option of using to take next. First he wants to know whether the diplomatic efforts will succeed. If they fail, the massive military power moved yesterday into the Sea of Japan off North Korea.

The officials indicated that some decision is possible shortly on military action if the North Koreans do not promptly release the Pueblo and its crew.

These officials said last night that whether there is a new war between the United States and North Korea is wholly up to the Communists.

A National Security Council meeting is scheduled for 1 p.m. today at the White House at which there is expected to be an assessment of the diplomatic efforts to win release of the Pueblo.

At a meeting of the Korean Mixed Armistice Commission last night, Washington time, at Panmunjom on the line which divides North from South Korea, the United States demanded the return of the ship and crew.

American Rear Admiral John V. Smith also demanded an apology from the North Koreans. He called seizure of the Pueblo "the most heinous crime" since the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950.

Smith coupled the ship incident with the rising number of North Korean incursions into South Korea across the demilitarized zone and he warned that if they continued the responsibility for the consequences would rest on the North Koreans.

The United States also has moved on the diplomatic front to free the ship by asking the Soviet Union to intervene. A message was given the Russians in Moscow yesterday shortly after the seizure of the vessel.

See EFFECTS, A6, Col. 1

Administration officials yesterday viewed the Pueblo incident, which caught Washington by total surprise, as the most serious in Korea since the armistice on July 27, 1953, ended the bloody three-year war.

The seizure was characterized as a "matter of utmost gravity" and the State Department moved at once for a diplomatic solution. The movement of the naval force headed by the nuclear-powered carrier Enterprise already was under way by that time.

State Department officials tended to believe that the North Koreans had seized upon "a target of opportunity" in challenging and then seizing the Pueblo which had been in the area for two weeks.

These officials said they did not believe the act was part of any concerted Communist plan to open a second front against the United States in Asia. However, they pointed out that the North Koreans have stepped up both their infiltration of South Korea and the violence of their verbal attacks on the United States over the last year or so.

The Washington reading is that the doctrinaire North Korean Communists hope to spark a guerrilla war in South Korea which would lead to the overthrow of the American-supported government in Seoul and to unification of the country under Communist rule.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk told newsmen he considered the incident "a matter of utmost gravity." At the White House it was characterized as a "very serious situation." Later, in a formal statement, the State Department said the United States "views this action by North Korea with utmost gravity."

The Department said the United States at once had asked the Soviet Union, via the American Embassy in Moscow, to help obtain release of the ship and its crew. It was also announced that the seizure would be brought up at a meeting of the Mixed Armistice Commission which had been due to meet at 9 o'clock last night on the earlier attempt by North Korean infiltrators in the South Korean capital of Seoul to kill President Park Chung Hee.

At the United Nations, Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg called on U.N. Secretary General U Thant to express American concern. He said he did not then have sufficient details to call for any U.N. action.

The lack of a complete picture of what occurred, especially the Pentagon's failure to explain why the Pueblo had not called for air support from bases close by in Korea, Japan and Okinawa, led many officials to withhold judgment.

While Administration officials spoke of getting the ship and the men back as quickly as possible, there was no certainty that this would occur. North Korea said that the "spy ship" had intruded into its territorial waters although the United States said the Pueblo was 25 miles off shore.

The last case of American servicemen being captured was in 1963 when two Army helicopter pilots were forced down north of the Korean dividing line. They were released a year later.

While the United States emphasized what it termed "the seriousness" of "this flagrant North Korean action on the high seas," North Korea excoriated what it called the American "imperialists" and their "armed ship."

Pyongyang Radio, the official voice of North Korea, yesterday boasted of guerrilla raids on American sentry posts along the Demilitarized Zone which divides the two Koreas. The broadcast said the raids took place "as the armed struggle of revolutionary people spreads everywhere in South Korea."

This has been the North Korean line for some time, claiming that the United States was trying to suppress an uprising of South Koreans. A broadcast on Jan. 10 charged that four days earlier "many armed boats, mingled with fishing boats, under the escort of armed warships," had intruded into North Korean coastal waters. The broadcast claimed that "escort boat number 56" had been "sent to the bottom" in such an incident a year ago.

Earlier broadcasts charged that American reconnaissance planes had flown over North Korea. American ground provocations also have been charged.

On the other hand, a Goldberg report to the U.N. on Nov. 2 stated that as of that time in 1967 there had been 543 North Korean incidents in violation of the armistice as contrasted to 50 incidents in all of 1966. Goldberg reported that North Korean armed raiders had invaded the South by both land and sea.

These infiltrators in some cases, Goldberg's report stated, had "attempted unsuccessfully to organize a form of guerrilla activity." Nearly all of the infiltrators had been killed or captured, he added, by Korean forces [illegible] police with "the universal [illegible] most effective assistance of the civilian popul[illegible]

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Hill Calls for Action To Recover Seized Ship

Congress reacted angrily yesterday to North Korea's capture of the American intelligence ship, the USS Pueblo.

There were calls for military action to recover the vessel and its 83-man crew from the city of Wonsan, where it was forced into port.

Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.), Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, called the seizure "almost an act of war." His House counterpart, Rep. L. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.), said, "I hope the President will take all necessary steps to restore this ship to our fleet."

Some, including critics of the Administration's policy in Vietnam, suggested that the U.S. commitment there was responsible for the North Korean action.

Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.), Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee who is quietly probing the 1964 confrontation in the Tonkin Gulf, and Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.) said the American commitment in Vietnam has allowed other countries to move against the U.S. with impunity.

Sen. George D. Aiken (R-Vt.) suggested that "North Korea is irritated because South Korea is supplying 40,000 troops to South Vietnam."

One of the strongest reactions came from Rep. Bob Wilson (R-Calif.), who demanded that the United States take military action "at once" to

See REACT, A6, Col. 4

recover the Pueblo and her crew. Wilson also raised three critical questions that were echoed by a number of legislators.

The three that "must be answered" were, he said: Why wasn't air cover sent? Why wasn't there "adequate military protection" for the patrolling Pueblo? Why wasn't the ship scuttled by its captain and crew before it was boarded by the North Koreans "to prevent our secret intelligence equipment from falling into enemy hands?"

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) called the seizure "a clear violation of international law" and said he assumed the Government will make "the necessary protests and objections" through the Soviet Union and Japan, which have diplomatic relations with North Korea.

"This is typical, I think, of things we're going to have a lot more of," Symington said. "The South Koreans are just a few yards away (from North Korea) at the Demilitarized Zone. We've got several divisions there. The North Koreans are supplied by China and I guess the Soviet Union. Maybe it illustrates that when the cat's away the mice will play—after all, we're pretty heavily engaged in Vietnam."

Rep. William H. Bates (R-Mass.), senior GOP member of the House Armed Services Committee, condemned the seizure as "a dastardly act of piracy," while Rep. Durward G. Hall (R-Mo.) said "these provocations" demanded an immediate and forceful response.

Although Russell agreed with Symington's contention that the United States was widely spread militarily around the world, he said the country was "capable of fulfilling any of our commitments we may have in Korea and at the same time maintain our posture in Vietnam".

House GOP Leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan said the North Korean should release the ship "forthwith."

"If the vessel was cruising in international waters, as was apparently the case, there is no justification whatever for the action taken by the North Koreans," he said.

Rep. Spark M. Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) said the United States should call on the United Nations to condemn "this act of piracy."

Outside Congress, the man who negotiated the 1953 armistice in Korea, Gen. Mark W. Clark, said in Charleston, S.C., that the seizure of the Pueblo was a lesson for persons demanding negotiations in Vietnam.

"The conference table is just an extension of the war for the Communists," said Clark, who is now the president of The Citadel, a military school.

"It doesn't surprise me. It angers me, of course. But this isn't the first time the enemy in Korea violated the armistice. As soon as I signed it they began to violate it."

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An official Navy picture of the USS Pueblo. Numbers (explained below) locate the vessel's special equipment.

The USS Pueblo—An Intelligence Ship

The USS Pueblo, one of a large fleet of American intelligence-gathering ships, carries millions of dollars worth of secret electronic equipment. Its electronic gear enables the crew to listen to land, sea and air communications within its surveillance range.

Intercepted communications are recorded on tapes that go ultimately to Washington where experts try to fit them into a world-wide intelligence pattern.

By capturing the Pueblo the North Koreans and other Communist powers may well learn about the latest American intelligence-ferreting techniques.

The above photograph, released by the Pentagon, shows some of the intelligence equipment that will now be available for North Korean inspection:

1—The twin antennae, called Yagis, show where signals are coming from so other equipment on the ship can focus on them.

2—The long poles appear to support cables for transmitting messages to submerged submarines by means of low frequency radio waves that can penetrate the sea's surface to about 50 feet.

3—The radar equipment appears to be designed for bouncing signals off the troposphere. This gives the ship still another way to listen or transmit messages. This tropospheric communication technique has special advantages for eavesdropping on airplanes and their ground controllers.

4—There is a dome-shaped antenna pointing skyward at this location, barely visible in the photograph. This probably is the chief means of communicating with airplanes and eavesdropping on their conversations.

5—The Pentagon photograph shows a deck winch at this location. But this winch, left over from when the Pueblo acted as an auxiliary, probably has been removed to make room for electronic equipment such as the giant ear used on the USS Liberty, sunk by the Israelis during the Middle East war.

6—This is the logical location for tape recording equipment that records communications intercepted by the Pueblo. The area might even be sealed off from the rest of the ship—as was the case in the USS Liberty.

7—Unless the Pueblo has had its hull modified for underwater listening equipment, the ship trails a long line of hydrophones behind it as it moves through the water. The listening line is beneath the surface, dragged down by a planing device, and has weighted hydrophones hanging from it like a crabber's trot line.

Each ship makes a distinctive sound underwater, called its signature by ferret specialists. These signatures are fed into a computer by U.S. intelligence experts for ready comparison to signals recorded by ferret ships on station.

If the Pueblo had such underwater detection equipment, and it most likely did, it could listen to ships passing by for 50 miles around.

MERNING
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NAVAL CRISES RECALLED

Freedom of Seas Touchy Issue

The North Korean seizure of the Pueblo has raised a freedom of the seas issue which thru American history has meant crisis — sometimes to the point of war.

Violation of the right was a major factor in bringing on the War of 1812. A U.S. ship seizure almost brought England to the point of coming on the side of the Confederacy during the Civil War.

The sinking of the U.S. battleship Maine was a decisive event in bringing on the Spanish-American war. The submarine torpedoing of the British liner Lusitania helped sway American public opinion against the Germans prior to U.S. entry into World War I.

Historically, the War of 1812 demonstrated the sensitivity the American people have toward violations of freedom of the seas. The conflict was triggered by the Chesapeake affair. On June 22, the U.S. frigate Chesapeake en route from Norfolk, Va., to the Mediterranean was stopped by the British warship Leopard just outside American territorial waters with a demand that it submit to a search for Royal Navy deserters.

When the Chesapeak's master, James M. Barron, refused, Leopard opened fire, forcing the American frigate to submit. Four seamen — two of them American-born — were impressed into the British Navy.

The incident sparked warhawk fever both among the American people and Congress and the war broke out after a similar series of impressment episodes.

The only precedent for the Pueblo incident, however, occurred during the Civil War on Feb. 4, 1862 when a converted revenue cutter on the Union side, the 600-ton Harriet Lane, was captured by Confederate forces in Galveston, Tex., after being damaged by Southern shore batteries off the coast of Florida. Even in this case, however, Harriet Lane was not captured at sea.

The first recorded instance of the capture of an American warship was in 1800, when Barbary pirates operating in the Mediterranean off Tripoli succeeded in overpowering the crew of the U. S. frigate Philadelphia.

Historians said further research probably would show a few more captures in the War of 1812 and the Civil War, but no similar incident in the past century. (CP)

'Sorry, Sir . . . but the North Koreans Captured One of Our Spy Ships. We Lost Four H-Bombs Over Greenland, We Invaded Cambodia, Bobby Might Run . . .'

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U. S. on Diplomatic Tip-Toe

The United States, confronted with the most perilous situation in Korea since the 1953 armistice, was moving quietly but forcefully thru diplomatic channels today to secure the return of the USS Pueblo and her crew.

Johnson administration officials said North Korea's seizure of the U. S. Navy intelligence vessel in international waters appeared to be one more "provocation" in a mounting series of communist actions aimed at eventually destroying the U. S.-backed government of South Korean President Park Chung Hee.

MANEUVER

They said the North Korean communists probably hoped that their action at sea, as well as their stepped up infiltration and terrorism in South Korea, also would help Hanoi by distracting American attention and resources.

But the primary objective of the Pueblo hijacking, in the view of officials here, was to press forward the campaign for the ultimate communization of the entire Korean peninsula.

The Russians, whose aid the United States has sought in this affair, had no editorial comment on it. On the basis of Soviet actions during the past few years it was assumed the Kremlin wanted to find a way to defuse the situation and divert the peril of a renewed Korean war without causing the North Korean communists to lose too much face in the process.

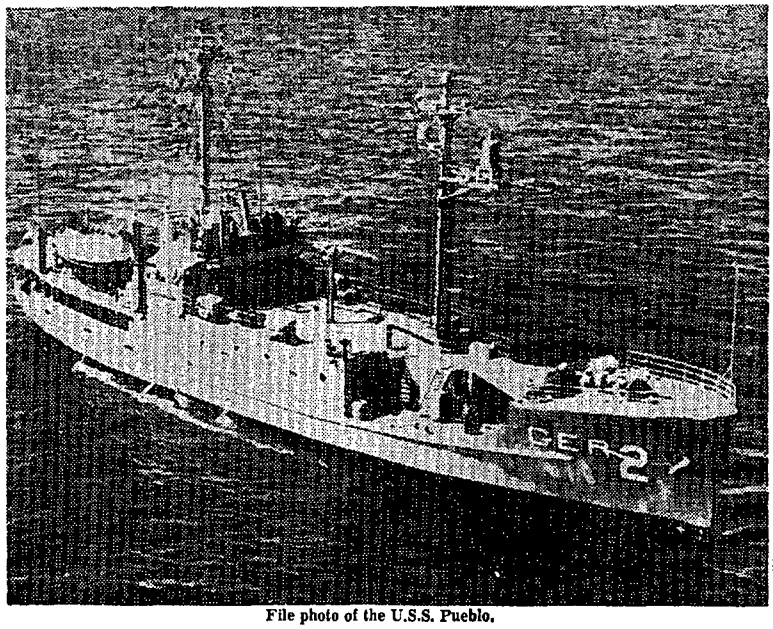
RENEWED WAR

No official would go so far as to predict that the Pueblo incident, along with the attempted assassination of President Park and other actions, would lead to a resumption of hostilities in Korea. But such a possibility could not be discounted entirely.

The official North Korean newspaper, Rodong Shinmoon, said Sunday that President Johnson's policies in Vietnam had created "a tense situation in which a war may break out at any moment . . . in our country."

On Jan. 9, about the time the Pueblo took up its station off Wonsan harbor, another North Korean newspaper, Minju Choson, said the United States was sending armed vessels along the country's east coast.

The North Koreans, in their broadcast announcement of the capture of a "spy ship" linked the affair directly to the mounting tension rising from a sharp increase in the number of military incidents between North and South in recent months. (UPI)



File photo of the U.S.S. Pueblo.

Distress Signal Late

Spy Ships Role Foggy

By MIKE MILLER
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Mystery today shrouded the role and actions of the Navy's USS Pueblo, hijacked Monday night by communist North Korea on an intelligence mission off that country's coast.

After hours of officially imposed silence, many of the sporadic Pentagon disclosures on the incident served to heighten the mystery rather than solve it.

There were these questions:

✔ What exactly was the Pueblo doing in the Sea of Japan since it began its mission there Jan. 8?

Describing the vessel as an "intelligence gathering auxiliary ship," the Pentagon said it was under control of the Navy rather than any of the U.S. supersecret intelligence agencies.

✔ Why did the Pueblo hesitate so long before calling for help?

The vessel was first confronted by a North Korean patrol boat at 10 p.m. Monday and told by radio to "Heave to or I will open fire on you." The Pueblo skipper did not request help until she was boarded an hour and 45 minutes later, after the one patrol boat had been joined by three others and two MIGs circling overhead.

The Pentagon declined comment on whether any help was dispatched. It was probably too late.

✔ What happened in the 47 minutes from the time the ship was boarded until it sent its last message that its engines were at "all stop" and that it was "going off the air?" Did a fight ensue?

It could have. The Pueblo's crew of 83 was equipped with small arms and might have fought back before being overcome. A Navy spokesman said the Pueblo was taken forcibly and did not surrender. Nor did it ask for instructions while it remained in contact with "higher headquarters."

Altho Pueblo radioed that it didn't fire its two 50-caliber machine guns and there was no report of fire from the patrol boats before the boarding, the Pueblo skipper reported four men wounded, one critically.

✔ Where is the ship and what's going to happen to her?

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The Pueblo Incident

WITH the Vietnam war blazing fiercely, the United States doesn't need any more entanglements, incidents or blunders, especially in Asia. But we suddenly have a first class problem with the USS Pueblo. The whole ship, intact, with 83-man crew, was captured by North Korean gunboats without a shot fired. It sounds preposterous, but there it is.

The important thing is to obtain release of ship and crew without touching off a new blaze. Despite some hawkish cries from Capitol Hill, let us try diplomacy, thru the Soviet Union and Japan, North Korea's neighbors, but we must insist on prompt return of the captured vessel.

But how did it happen, and why? The why seems easier to answer: the communist regime in Pyongyang, angered by the sizable contribution its South Korean rival is making in South Vietnam, has been stirring up trouble for months.

The seizure of the Pueblo comes just two days after the daring commando raid in Seoul aimed at assassinating South Korean President Park Chung-hee. And that abortive attempt capped more than a year of sharply stepped-up infiltration and sabotage. It should be no mystery to any American — including U.S. Navy officers in the area — that North Korea is distinctly hostile territory.

But was the Pueblo in North Korean waters and thus liable to attack or seizure, as the communists claim? The Pentagon says no, the ship was well away from shore — at the time it was taken in tow, at least.

Unfortunately, even in our own country there is not too much faith in the Pentagon's version of incidents like this one — considering the "cover" stories on major incidents over the years.

In our judgment there was no wisdom or prudence in positioning an "intelligence collection auxiliary ship" — slow (12 knots) and virtually unarmed (two .50-caliber machineguns) — close in off Wonsan harbor.

Of course our Navy has the right to "freedom of the high seas." But the more pertinent question is; Is it smart for the Navy to steer such a ship, unprotected, around in a known dangerous neighborhood? Let's stop leading with our chin, particularly when we don't have our dukes up.

Shipnaping Is Called Well-Planned

By R. H. BOYCE
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Administration sources voiced fears today that North Korea's seizure of the USS Pueblo and recent "drastic increases" in communist attacks on South Korea may be linked to the Vietnam War.

They speculated that the growing boldness of North Korean Communists is aimed at:

- Keeping U.S. and South Korean forces so occupied there that no more troops can be pulled out to fight in Vietnam, thus indirectly helping communist Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces. (Fifty thousand South Korean troops already are fighting in Vietnam.)
- Warning the U.S. that continued bombing of North Vietnam could bring intensified guerilla fighting in Korea and perhaps even another Vietnam-type war there.

INCIDENTS INCREASE

The sources pointed to a report of the United Nations command in Korea to the United Nations Security Council which showed that "significant incidents" of North Korean infiltration into South Korea, by both land and sea, had increased from only 53 in 1966 to 543 last year.

There were only 36 fire-fights between opposing forces in Korea in 1966 but there were 212 hot exchanges of fire in 1967, the report said. It added that the number of North Koreans killed in such fighting increased from 43 in 1966 to 224 in 1967, while the number of U.S. and South Korean troops killed jumped from 35 in 1966 to 122 in 1967.

Four South Korean civilians were killed by infiltrators in 1966 but 22 were killed in 1967, the report said.

VIOLATION

The report was transmitted to the Security Council by U.S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg, who charged that the "recent sharp increase in the scope and intensity of the North Korean military attacks and other armed activity in Korea was in violation of the Military Armistice Agreement signed July 27, 1953."

The report said North Korean "armed raiders" ranging from small groups of six or nine men up to a group of about 60 have attacked "in carefully planned and reconnoitered operations" and also have concealed "numerous mines" and used high-explosive charges to demolish buildings.

Nearly all the infiltrators were captured, killed or dispersed, the report said.

The abortive attempt Sunday by 31 North Koreans to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung-Hee was the latest in the growing number of raids — capped by the seizure of the Pueblo.

It is believed the Pueblo's capture was carefully planned and executed because the U.S. Navy "intelligence gathering" ship had been engaged in electronic eavesdropping off the North Korean coast for two weeks. The State Department insisted the ship was operating in international waters.

Military intelligence sources here said the planned nature of the North Korean capture of the Pueblo was borne out by the presence of four Red gunboats which encircled the ship while two communist mig fighter jets circled low overhead.

It was believed this display of superior North Korean firepower made the Pueblo reluctant to attempt a shoot-out with the enemy, altho several crewmen reportedly were wounded by gunfire. The Pueblo was armed only with two 50-caliber machine guns.

But no Washington official would offer an explanation of why no American help was forthcoming from U.S. naval or air facilities within range of the Pueblo.

Capture of the intelligence vessel by the communists was regarded as a major coup, since the ship was equipped with quantities of highly sophisticated electronic gear. There was speculation that the ship may have been singled out as a target because the North Koreans believed it had gathered valuable military information.

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U. S. Mounts Show of Strength

Reds Vow to Keep Pueblo

PANMUNJON, Korea, Jan. 24 (UPI) — In a truce line confrontation, the United States today demanded North Korea return the hijacked USS Pueblo and its 83 men but the communist regime said it will keep the intelligence ship.

"The ship will remain in our hands," Maj. Gen. Pak Chung Kuk of North Korea told U. S. Rear Adm. John V. Smith at a face-to-face meeting of the Korean Armistice Truce Commission. Gen. Pak also said several Americans were "killed and wounded" in yesterday's ship capture.

Admiral Smith accused North Korea of launching a "campaign of provocation, sabotage and assassination." He said, "if the North Korean regime persists in this campaign, which can only endanger the peace of this area, the responsibility for the consequences will rest on the North Korea regime."

SHOW OF STRENGTH

The U. S. was mounting a naval show of strength in the waters off North Korea to back up its demand for the return.

The nuclear powered aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, world's largest warship, was reported to have been diverted from Vietnam station to lead an American task force into the Sea of Japan.

Gen. Pak and Admiral Smith met at this truce village on the Korean dividing line.

Gen. Pak charged the Pueblo was captured in North Korean waters at 39.17 degrees north latitude and 127.46 degrees east longitude. According to the U. S. Navy, the ship was hijacked in the Japan Sea and forced into the North Korean port of Wonsan.

RESISTANCE CITED

Pyongyang Radio, the broadcasting voice of the North Korean capital, said the 83 American crewmen put up "arrogant resistance" before the vessel was boarded and seized. The broadcast said several Americans were killed or wounded and more than 80 "captured alive."

The North Koreans accused the vessel of "intolerable provocations" and said the Pueblo "illegally infiltrated (into North Korean waters) on an espionage mission." They said the ship fired on the patrol boats and when the boats returned the fire they "killed and wounded" several Americans.

The Navy said four American crewmen were injured, one critically, when the communist boats seized the Pueblo as two Mig Jet fighters circled overhead. The hijacking was said by the Pentagon to have occurred on the high seas in international waters, about 15 nautical miles from the North Korean coast.

The Navy insisted last night that at no point in the encounter did the Pueblo fire her two .50-caliber machine guns.

There was no indication from Pueblo's last radio messages how her crewmen were injured. The vessel made no mention of any gunfire.

Commander Lloyd M. Bucher, of the Pueblo, with his family—Mike, 13, left; Mrs. Bucher and Mark, 15. The photo was made last year when the Buchers visited Boys Town, Nebr., of which the Naval officer is a graduate.

—UPI Photos

This did not preclude a hand-to-hand struggle on the ship whenthe communists boarded her. There was also speculation that the crewmen may have been injured while attempting to destroy the secret electronic monitoring and communications gear crammed aboard the modified auxiliary cargo vessel.

The Navy said Pueblo's skipper, Idaho-born Cmdr. Lloyd Mark Bucher, 38, of San Diego, Calif., appealed for help only once — when his ship was actually boarded — indicating he was unaware the vessel was in serious trouble until the last minute.

By that time, the Navy said, it was too late to dispatch ships or planes to Pueblo's rescue.

"Time and the distance factors made it impossible to respond to the call that was made when the ship was being boarded," a spokesman said.

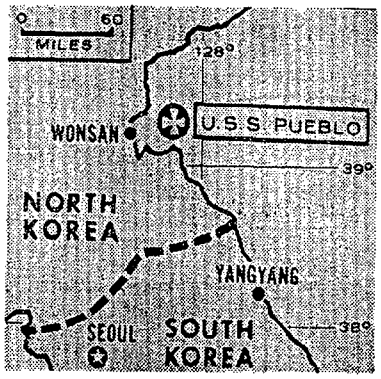
Adm. Smith demanded the North Korean apologize.

He said, "the events of last year, and especially the last few days, have put a new complexion on the situation in Korea. The North Korean regime has embarked on a continuing campaign of provocation, sabotage and assassination in violation of the armistice agreement and international law."

PATTERN SEEN

He called the seizure of the Pueblo "part of a pattern of North Korean belligerance and aggressive actions which dangerously increased in this area. If they are persisted in, they will have the most serious consequences to the main task of the armistice and to the preservation of peace in Korea."

"Such hostile acts cannot be perpetuated with impunity," he warned.



Location given by the U.S. of the seizure.

President Johnson and his top military and diplomatic advisers were closely following developments in the first boarding and seizure of a seagoing American Naval vessel in more than a century. The President scheduled a meeting of the National Security Council at the White House today.

Outraged congressmen demanded prompt U.S. action to free the ship and her crew. Sen. Richard B. Russell, (D., Ga.), chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said the seizure amounted to "an act of war." Rep. William H. Bates, (Mass.), senior Republican on the House Armed Services committee, called it "a dastardly act of piracy."

The White House called it "a very serious situation," and Secretary of State Dean Rusk said it was "a matter of the utmost gravity."

Linked to Viet Pressure

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A Challenge to Candor . . .

The naval kidnaping of the USS Pueblo by four North Korean torpedo boats is almost too bizarre to be believed. We know that it was engaged in sophisticated electronic espionage, close to the North Korean coast, but in international waters, according to the United States account. But we don't know why it was unescorted, and under-armed, or why, even so, it did not even try to resist. Above all, we don't know why the North Koreans picked this moment for so provocative a piece of brigandage.

Not knowing these things, the soundest course is probably not to leap to conclusions, especially when we also don't know what efforts are being made to extricate the vessel and its 83-man crew. The Administration is entitled to a decent interval even when the outward evidence points to bungling on a major scale.

That much said, the Administration must realize that public tolerance in this country for the unexplained and the inexplicable is wearing thin, as is public patience with the growing evidence of a rising challenge to our security interests throughout the Asian world. A public which was lied to over the U-2, confused, if nothing else, by the Tonkin Gulf, and misled, to say the least, in the affair of another intelligence ship attacked by the Israelis last year, cannot be satisfied or reassured by the same old coverups.

This is all the more imperative, given the impact this incident is likely to have on nerves already frayed and positions already hardening. Those who see this country as over-extended in Asia, and around the world, will find further argument for withdrawal and retrenchment from confrontation with communism. Those who see in our policies of limited war a humiliation and a senseless inhibition will find further argument for a harder line and stiffer measures all across the board.

Already there is evidence of these tendencies in reaction to the seizure of the Pueblo. While some Senators cried out against a virtual act of war, others claimed vindication of their view that we are over-extended in a world policeman's role. As Communist pressures continue to pile up in Vietnam along the highlands and across the Demilitarized Zone, in neighboring Laos, and in Thailand, a new Korean crisis can only operate to accentuate the extremes.

It is important to keep our cool until we know more. But this makes it no less important that we be told more—and more that is believable—about so bizarre and unbelievable an incident.

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Reaction To Seizure Is Divided

The public and political opinion that surfaced in the country yesterday was badly divided over the response the United States should make to North Korea's seizure of the USS Pueblo.

In the Senate, caution seemed the dominant theme. The Democratic Majority Leader, Mike Mansfield of Montana, declared: "We ought to keep our shirts on and not go off half-cocked."

The chairman of the Senate Military Preparedness Subcommittee, John Stennis (D.-Miss.), took essentially the same view. He urged the White House to "avoid precipitous and rash over-reaction. Above all, we must not rush pell-mell towards the disaster of World War III."

In the House and among some segments of the American press, the mood and the rhetoric were more militant. A New York Democrat, Rep. Samuel Stratton, said "we've got to get that ship back just as vigorously as President Kennedy got the missiles out of Cuba." House Republican Leader Gerald Ford of Michigan said that if diplomacy fails "the United States must take whatever military action is necessary" to recover the ship.

'Deliver an Ultimatum'

The chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, tough-talking L. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.), said the United States should declare war if necessary to get the Pueblo back. "I wouldn't fool with him," said Rivers. "I'd deliver an ultimatum. If they didn't give back the ship, I'd turn loose whatever we had out there on them."

If an all-out war in Korea grew out of the Pueblo capture this country would have to consider using tactical nuclear weapons, Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) said in a television panel interview (WTTG) last night.

A few newspapers accused the Administration of cowardice and, in effect, echoed Rivers' call for an unlimited response. "North Korea's bold seizure of the Pueblo," said the Milwaukee Sentinel, "is not nearly so outrageous as has been the American pusillanimous reaction to it. Our official bird is not eagle, hawk or dove. It is chicken."

Said the Chicago Tribune: "Given the spinelessness of successive Administrations since the days of President Truman in dealing with Korea, little, if any, effective action would seem in the making. The United States will have suffered humiliation at the hands of a country it could squash like a bug."

Advice to the Administration to withhold precipitate action and to use first the channels of diplomacy was given by the Los Angeles Times, the Kansas City Star, the New York Times and most other major newspapers.

Parents' Statements

The most conciliatory statements on the Pueblo incident came from parents of captured crewmen. "Let's keep cool," said Oliver Langenberg of St. Louis, whose 21-year-old son Peter was aboard the ship.

The wife of the Pueblo's commander, Mrs. Lloyd Bucher of San Diego, said her only recourse now is to "pray for his safety."

Blame for the incident was assigned to various targets. Sen. Wallace Bennett (R-Utah) viewed the ship's seizure as simply another step in "World War III, Communist style." But Rep. Wayne Hays (D-Ohio) pointed a finger at the CIA. "Maybe CIA didn't run this," said Hays, "but I expect they did It's about as fumbling an operation as you would expect from them." The Milwaukee Journal questioned the Navy's judgment in sending out the ship without an escort. The Winston-Salem, N.C., Journal commented on the "impression that her skipper acted ingloriously by surrendering without a fight."

Republican presidential candidate George Romney had no comment at all. "It would be silly," said Romney, "to make a comment on a situation as serious as that without having all the facts."

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Joseph Kraft

Seizure of Pueblo by Reds Stresses U.S. Self-Isolation

LAST YEAR made it plain that guns in Vietnam could not be combined with butter at home. And this year is making it plain that the United States cannot have both guns in Vietnam and a detente with the rest of the Communist world.

That is the bitter lesson of the seizure of the USS Pueblo by the North Koreans. And the lesson is the more bitter because it is evident that this country's traditional friends want no part of a new confrontation with the Communists.

To be sure, the Pueblo affair could be an isolated incident conditioned by very special circumstances. Moreover, the North Koreans are Asian Communists, sensitive to Peking's pressure for a hard-line stand against the United States.

BUT NORTH KOREA also has a common border with the Soviet Union. With respect to Vietnam, the North Koreans have supported Moscow against Peking in coming out for united action on behalf of Hanoi. Thus it is going to be very hard for the Russians to back away from what the North Koreans have done.

The more so as abundant signs indicate that a recent era of good feeling between Washington and Moscow had about reached the end of the line anyway. Not that Washington willed it that way. On the contrary, having just reached agreement with the Soviet Union on the text of a nuclear nonproliferation treaty, the Johnson Administration has been eager to go on to new arms control measures.

But the Vietnamese war keeps getting in the way. For example, minutes before Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin returned home for consultation ten days ago, Secretary of State Rusk was obliged to warn him that a recent air raid near Hanoi had scattered into the waters near the port delayed action bombs that might imperil Soviet ships.

ON THE SOVIET side, there appear to be moderate officials keen to maintain working relations with this country. But the moderates seem to be on the defensive on a host of issues, including economic reform and cultural liberalization as well as relations with Washington.

According to one rumor, Prime Minister Alexi Kosygin, thought to be the leading moderate figure in all matters, is on the point of resigning in frustration. Another story has it that one of the best known liberals in cultural matters, P. N. Demichev, will be demoted from a post on the party secretariat to a ministerial job.

By no mere accident, the backsliding of the Big Two toward confrontation finds most of this country's closest friends across the Atlantic looking the other way. The fact is that they are less and less interested in carrying the burden in the quarrels that now divide the United States and the Soviet Union.

Gen. de Gaulle, to cite the most notable example, has staked everything on disengagement from the United States in order to get on with Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. He has his own reasons for that policy—and those not of the best. But if he remains politically secure in France, and has a following throughout Western Europe, it is in large measure because he is able to pose as the prophet of detente.

BRITAIN seems now to be following along. Compelling economic needs have forced Prime Minister Harold Wilson to abandon the role of junior partner to the United States in backing up the security of nations between Singapore and Suez. And on his recent visit to Moscow he has been playing to the hilt the part of the man who can get on with the Russians.

Nor is anybody else in Western Europe, not even the West Germans who were once so keen on confrontation, rallying to the cause. On the contrary, their most conspicuous stance toward the United States is the flinty position they have taken on the balance of payments. And that is in large part a refusal to help pick up the tab for this country's efforts in Vietnam.

What is happening, in short, is the self-isolation of the United States. Being indignant about the Pueblo, justifiable as indignation may be, will not turn that tide of affairs. What is required, what more than ever shapes up as the most urgent task of all, is containing the war in Vietnam.

1968, Publishers-Hall Syndicate

Senate Unit Defers Action On Tonkin

By Robert C. Albright
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday postponed a decision on whether to investigate developments leading up to the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin resolution, after a 3-hour hush-hush meeting.

Chairman J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) described the proposed inquiry as a "very sensitive matter" in the light of Monday's incident involving North Korea's capture on the high seas off Korea of the U.S.S. intelligence ship Pueblo.

Fulbright said another closed meeting will be called later to determine whether to undertake a full-dress investigation of the Tonkin Gulf incident, in the wake of a staff study of the facts. Fulbright declined to rule out the "possibility" of an inquiry, however.

He said the only Committee consensus reached yesterday was to put off a formal decision. Most committeemen declined to talk anymore about it, but at least one ranking Republican favored dropping the inquiry altogether.

"I personally think we should leave it (Tonkin Gulf) to the historians," said Sen. George D. Aiken (R-Vt.). "I am much more interested in what our Government does in the next three years, or in the next three months, than in what we did three years ago."

In one generally well-informed quarter it was suggested there may never be any official committee determination one way or the other, but that an informal inquiry will continue, as it has in the past.

If this is done, the Committee may meet from time to time with people like Under Secretary of Defense Paul H. Nitze and others who can shed more light on developments that preceded and followed an attack on the U.S. destroyer Maddox by three North Vietnamese PT boats in the Gulf of Tonkin off the North Vietnam coast on Aug. 2, 1964.

Newsmen asked Fulbright if he found any parallels between the Maddox and Pueblo incidents. Fulbright replied that both were ships, both were on the high seas, and both were gathering intelligence. "There are certain similarities," he said.

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N. Korea Cites 'Confession'

Fabrication Is Charged By Pentagon

From News Dispatches

North Korea claimed yesterday the captain of the USS Pueblo had confessed that he was engaged in "criminal espionage activities" inside North Korean territorial waters when he was captured Tuesday. The United States termed this "a travesty on the facts."

The alleged confession was attributed to Cmdr. Lloyd Mark Bucher. The 38-year-old officer, his 83-man crew and their intelligence ship were taken into custody by North Korean patrol boats and brought to the port of Wonsan.

The (North) Korean Central News Agency quoted Bucher as saying that he was carrying out an espionage mission against the Soviet Union and North Korea for which he and his crew had been offered "a lot of dollars" from the Central Intelligence Agency.

Alleged Remarks

"Having been captured now, I say frankly that our act was a criminal act which flagrantly violated the armistice agreement and it was a sheer act of aggression," Bucher said, according to the news agency.

"I have no excuse whatsoever for my criminal act as my ship intruded deep into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and was captured by the naval patrol crafts of the Korean People's Army in their self-defense action while conducting criminal espionage activities," the Commander allegedly said.

Called 'Fabrication'

In Washington, the Pentagon promptly asserted that the account attributed to Bucher was a "fabrication." It added that "no credence should be given to this contrived statement."

Assistant Secretary of Defense Phil G. Goulding, the Pentagon's chief spokesman, said the "style and wording" of the document published by the North Koreans "provide unmistakable evidence in themselves that this was not

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KOREA—From Page A1

North Koreans Claim U.S. Captain Confessed

written or prepared by any American." He continued:

"The major point which this propaganda utterance attempts to make is that the Pueblo had violated North Korean territorial waters and was, in fact, violating those territorial waters when the North Korean patrol craft appeared.

"This is absolutely untrue."

Goulding said the Pueblo reported her position at the time of her capture as 39:25 north and 127:55 east. As the ship was being seized, he added, the North Koreans placed it at 39:25 north and 127:56 east.

"These two reported positions are within a mile of one another and both show conclusively that the Pueblo was in international waters," Goulding continued.

Pentagon sources noted that the position given in Bucher's alleged confession was 39:17.4 north and 127:46.9 east. This position, unlike the one given earlier in a North Vietnamese ship-to-shore radio transmission which was monitored by U.S. listening stations, is inside Korean waters.

North Korea claims a frontier extending 12 miles out to sea.

"The Pueblo was under orders from the beginning of its mission to stay at least 13 miles from North Korean territory," Goulding said. "There is no evidence to suggest that these orders were disobeyed.

The Assistant Secretary said the claim that Bucher and his crew were working for the CIA was "typical of this propaganda sham . . .

"Commander Bucher is a naval officer, commanding a naval ship and performing a naval mission. He is not employed by the CIA and was promised nothing by the CIA. Nor were any members of his crew."

The Korean Central News Agency statement quoted Bucher as saying his ship had carried out numerous assignments for the CIA. For the voyage which ended in capture, his alleged confession continued, the vessel was disguised to look as if it was engaged in research on oceanic electronics.

Bucher reportedly said he entered North Korean waters from Soviet waters Jan. 16.

"My ship was on the utmost alert and observed and ascertained the depth of water, current, water temperature, sea basin, salt density and water transparency" at several points within the North Korean sea frontier, the confession attributed to Bucher said.

The Commander was quoted as saying that his ship also gathered information on military installations, industrial facilities, port traffic and the deployment of armed forces along the coast.

The Pueblo was 7.6 miles off the town of Rodo when North Korean patrol boats appeared, the account continued.

"We were on the alert instantly and tried to escape, firing at the navy patrol crafts . . ." Bucher allegedly said.

"But the situation became more dangerous for us and thus one of my men was killed, another heavily wounded and two others lightly wounded."

The Pentagon said Tuesday that four persons aboard the Pueblo had been wounded. One message from the ship was said to have indicated that one man's leg was blown off, but there were no further details.

The statement attributed to Bucher closed with a reference to the wives and children of the Pueblo's crew and how they were anxiously awaiting the sailors' safe return.

"We only hope, and it is the greatest desire of myself and all my crew, that we will be forgiven leniently by the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea," Bucher was said to have concluded.

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U.S. Pressing Ship's Return;

LBJ Strives To Avoid Use of Force

By Chalmers M. Roberts and Carroll Kilpatrick
Washington Post Staff Writers

The White House strongly indicated last night that diplomatic efforts to secure the return of the seized Navy ship Pueblo will be continued before any decision is made to use military force.

At the end of a long day of top-level meetings, including an hour's session of the National Security Council, Presidential Press Secretary George Christian told newsmen that "the subject is still open through diplomatic channels. We have not abandoned diplomatic efforts toward settlement of the matter."

Christian characterized the diplomatic efforts as "still of paramount interest" but said he could give no details.

Russians Refuse Aid

Christian spoke after Administration officials had disclosed that the Soviet Union, to which the United States had quickly appealed for aid in freeing the Pueblo and its 83-man crew, had flatly refused to help.

Another official said that "the response of the Soviet government has not been satisfactory." He added that Washington had no evidence that Moscow had even transmitted its request to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

Furthermore, North Korean Maj. Gen. Park Chung Kuk, the senior Communist representative at the Mixed Armistice Commission meeting at Panmunjom Tuesday night, Washington time, ignored American demands for return of the Pueblo and its men.

Negative Remarks

A report from the American Embassy in Seoul to the State Department did not say that Gen. Park had rejected, in so many words, the demand. It did say that the whole tenor of his remarks was negative and Administration officials took them to be a rejection.

Thus just what the President will now decide to do, if further diplomatic efforts also prove fruitless, was a closely kept secret. There were indications that a second effort to enlist Russian aid would be made before any decision on whether to use force.

Christian said yesterday morning that "the Government, of course, is organized and planning, under the President's directive, to deal with the matter." He added that no ironclad decisions had then been reached.

But he and all other officials, including Secretary of State Dean Rusk, who spoke with newsmen at the Capitol, flatly refused to talk about future action.

See PUEBLO, A12, Col. 5

Meanwhile, an American naval task force built around the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise was on station in the middle of the Sea of Japan about 150 miles east of Wonsan, where the Pueblo has been taken. There was no word of what additional military dispositions may have been made but officials said that other movements had been ordered.

There were "no plans at present" for a presidential address to the Nation on this serious crisis which had hit official Washington with thunderbolt force and aroused anger in Congress.

Nor was there any sign of possible action at the United Nations. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg met for 30 minutes with Secretary General U Thant to give him "all available current information." But Thant, who himself had no comment on the Pueblo incident, reported through a spokesman that Goldberg had "not yet" requested him to step in.

North Korea is not a U.N. member. Its Communist government has been totally hostile to the world organization, and North Korea is still under a U.N. condemnation for the invasion of South Korea more than 17 years ago.

Rusk yesterday escalated his own characterization of the North Korean capture of the Pueblo, which he had termed "a matter of utmost gravity" a day earlier. Yesterday when asked if he agreed with a Senator's characterization of the seizure as an act of war, Rusk replied:

"It is a very harsh act. I would not object to characterizing it as an act of war in terms of categories in which such acts can be construed."

Rusk declared that "my strong advice to North Korea is to cool it. There have been enough of these incidents and they have come out of North Korea," a reference to the mounting attacks on South Korea by small bands and by infiltrators.

"North Korea would be well advised to pull back here, stop this kind of activity, and decide to live in peace with its neighbors," he said.

Rusk also said that "we would like to see the Russians give us some help in this." By the time he was saying this, however, other officials were reporting the Soviet turndown. At the White House it also was said that the efforts through the Russians "have not had satisfactory results."

Asked whether he saw a link between the North Korean action and the Communists in the Vietnam war, Rusk replied that he felt there was "no organic connection." He added that "it is possible North Korea tried to put on the pressure but it will not have the slightest effect."

Government specialists appear to be unanimous in viewing the North Korean infiltration of the South and the seizure of the Pueblo as strictly their own doing. They reject any notion that the ship was seized in collaboration with North Vietnam or with Communist China or the Soviet Union.

The North Koreans, however, have been embarrassed, it is felt here, by their inability to give much help to North Vietnam whereas South Korean troops are major and active American and South Vietnamese allies There have been reports of North Korean pilots in North Vietnam but no public confirmation that they have seen action.

Washington experts on Korean and Communist affairs generally assume that Soviet intelligence experts will fine-toothcomb the Pueblo to learn what they can of the most secret equipment. Thus there was some feeling here that after this is done Moscow might be more amenable to asking the North Koreans to release the ship and crew.

There is, of course, no guarantee that North Korea would take such Soviet advice, if offered. The Pyongyang government some months ago took a public stand of equal independence from both Moscow and Peking.

Reports of the Mixed Armistice Commission session showed that the North Korean general heaped charge after charge on the United States. Yesterday Pyongyang put out what it called a confession by the Pueblo's captain of his alleged guilt.

Christian termed the North Korean charges "both cynical and a distortion of fact." State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said the charges were "cynical, denunciatory of the United States and a distortion of fact."

North Korean Gen. Park charged that the Pueblo had engaged in a "vicious act of hostility" inside territorial waters and not outside as the United States claims. He also charged that the Pueblo was trying to "come closer to the land to perpetrate provocative acts" when North Korean navy vessels "returned fire."

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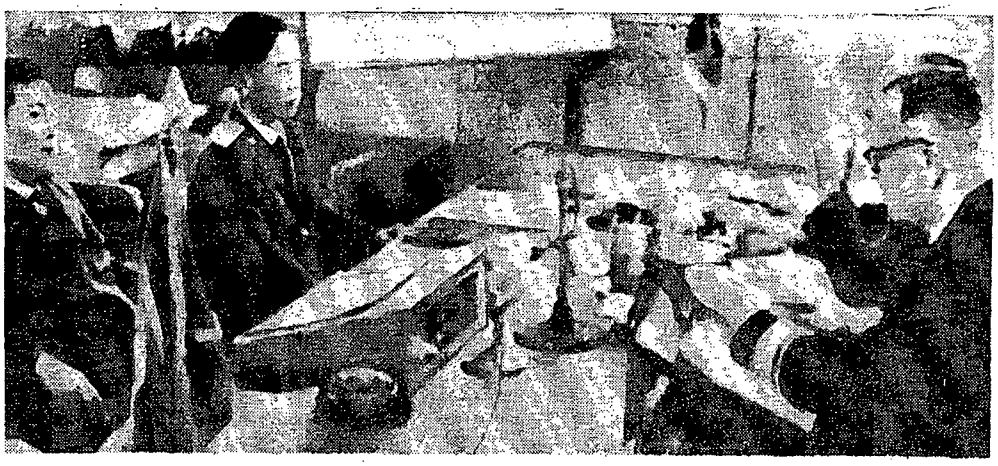
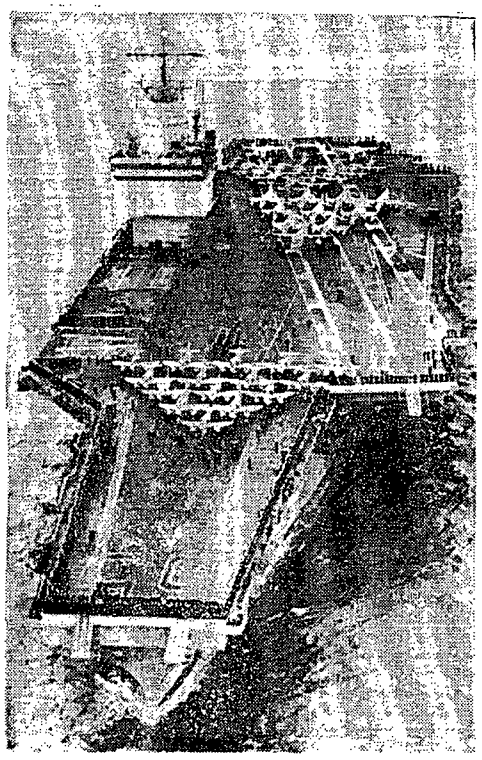


Associated Press

Adm. John V. Smith (right), chief U.N. delegate to the armistice commission at Panmunjom, reads statement of protest to Maj. Gen. Park Chung Kuk (far left), North Korea's delegate. Officer second from left is not identified.



Associated Press

Carrier Enterprise, which is now in the Sea of Japan.

Seizure Seen Linked to Purge

LONDON, Jan. 24 (UPI)—The seizure of the USS Pueblo is part of a hard-line North Korean strategy that has emerged after a major government and party purge, authoritative sources said today.

The shake-up has also led to the systematic acceleration of the campaign of subversion and infiltration in South Korea, the sources said.

The purge was believed to have been brought about partly by internal differences and partly by desire to help the North Vietnamese Communists by distracting the United States.

A new cabinet was apparently formed last month in Pyongyang after Pak Kum-chol, vice president of the Presidium, Vice Premier Ko Hyok and two senior members of the Communist Party were purged, the sources said.

Earlier, a number of senior army officers were reportedly put on the Party's political committee, strengthening the military's policy-making role.

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Field Commanders Decided Not to Attempt Ship Rescue

By George C. Wilson
Washington Post Staff Writer

Defense officials said last night that it was the military commanders in the field who decided against trying to rescue the USS Pueblo once she was boarded by North Koreans.

The Pentagon added that before the boarding, the skipper of the Pueblo was left on his own. Defense officials, who could not be identified under the ground rules of their meeting with newsmen, said no orders went out from Washington to the Pueblo during the entire hijacking sequence.

The responsibility for the decisions during the Pueblo's fateful hours was thus put squarely on the military.

Defense officials said they were not passing judgment on the decisions made nor implying any foulup in the capture. But they implied that once the skipper had given up his ship, there was nothing the Navy could think of doing to save the situation.

The first of four North Korean patrol boats started harassing the Pueblo at 10 p.m. ETS, Monday. Defence officials said the Pueblo's skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, did not call for help until the North Koreans started to board his ship at 11:45 p.m.

The Pentagon did not disclose the nature of the call for help nor to whom it was sent. But Defense officials said the message was received and understood.

From 11:45 p.m. Monday until the Pueblo reached Wonsan 26.1 nautical miles from its position, the question was how to rescue her.

Since the Pueblo has a maximum speed of 12.2 knots, military commanders had at least two hours to intercede while the North Korean patrol boats forced the American ship toward Wonsan harbor.

U.S. airplanes in the area, even if they could have reached the ship while she was still in international waters, would have had difficulty strafing or bombing the patrol boats without hitting the Pueblo as well.

Apparently there were no U.S. warships close by to intervene.

This apparent state of U.S. helplessness came through in an official Pentagon statement that said: "Time and distance factors made it impossible to respond to the call that was made when the ship was being boarded."

The key military decision then—according to the Pentagon time sequence—was made by the Pueblo's skipper.

Defense officials said they did receive a message from the skipper that he had started destroying the secret intelligence equipment on the Pueblo.

The ship stayed in radio communication with Navy shore stations even after the North Koreans boarded her. Possibly the Koreans took some time to cut off all the Pueblo's radio communication gear—some of which could have been sealed off in secret compartments.

While boarding started at 11:45 p.m. Monday, the Pueblo did not go off the air until 12:32 a.m. Tuesday.

Defense officials said last night that Secretary Robert S. McNamara was notified about the Pueblo capture at 12:23 a.m. Tuesday.

Partial List of Crew Aboard Seized Ship

Associated Press

The Pentagon yesterday gave a partial list of the 83 men aboard the captured intelligence ship Pueblo.

The Defense Department said the name of one Navy man was withheld because of difficulty in locating his next of kin. Another's name was withheld at the relatives request.

[It was learned independently that one of the crewmen is Marine Sgt. Robert J. Chicca, 28, listed at 701 Somerset pl., Hyattsville.]

Hometowns were not provided. This paralleled the Pentagon's policy applying to men captured or missing in Vietnam.

The crew included 79 Navy men, two Marines and two civilians.

The two civilian oceanographers were:

Harry Iredale II and Dunnie Richard Tuck Jr.

The Navy and Marine personnel:

Stewardsman Crogelio Parel Abelon, Stewardsman Rizalino Lastrella Aluague, Communications Technician 3/C Wayne Drexel Anderson, Fireman Apprentice Richard Everett Arnold, Communications Technician 3/C Charles William Ayling.

Communications Technician 1/C Don Earl Bailey, Hospital Corpsman 1/C Herman Paul Baldridge, Engineman Fireman Apprentice Richard Ivan Bame, Seaman Peter Milton Bandera, Communications Technician 1/C Michael Thomas Barrett, Boatswain's Mate 3/C Willie Columbus Bussell.

Fireman Apprentice Howard Edward Bland, Engineman 1/C Rushel Junior Blansett, Communications Technician Chief Ralph Dalton Bouden, Communications Technician 3/C Paul David Brusnahan, Comdr. Lloyd Mark Bucher, Boatswain's Mate 3/C Willie Columbus Bussell.

Yeoman 1/C Armando Moreno Canales, Marine Sgt. Robert C. Chicca, Radioman 3/C Charles Henry Crandell Jr., Communications Technician 3/C Bradley Reed Crowe, Communications Technician 3/C Rodney Harteman Duke.

Seaman Stephen Paul Ellis, Interior Communications Electrician 2/C Victor DeLeon Escamilla, Storekeeper 1/C Policaro Polla Garcia, Communications Technician 1/C Francis John Ginther, Engineman Chief Monroe Onel Goldman, Communications Technician 3/C John White Grant.

Electrician's Mate 1/C Gerald William Hagenson, Marine Staff Sgt. Robert J. Hammond, Lt. Stephen R. Harris, Engineman Timothy Leon Harris, Radioman 2/C Lee Roy Hayes, Fireman John Charles Higgins Jr., Seaman Robert Walter Hill Jr., Fireman Duane Daniel Hodges, Communications Technician Sidney J. Karnes.

Communications Technician Chief James Francis Kell, Communications Technician 3/C Earl Murray Kisler, Boatswain's Mate 1/C Norbert John Klepac, CWO Gene Howard Laccy, Communications Technician 3/C Anthony Andrew Lanantia, Communications Technician 2/C Peter [illegible] Langenberg, Quartermaster 1/C Charles Benton Law Jr., Communications Technician 1/C James Dewar Layton, Signalman 2/C Wendell Gene Leach, Commissaryman 2/C Harry Lewis.

Chief Communications Technician Ralph McClintock, Photographers Mate 1/C Lawrence William Mack, Signalman Roy Jay Maggard, Seaman Apprentice Larry Joe Marshall, Fireman Apprentice William Thomas Massie, Fireman John Arthur Mitchell, Lt. Edward Renz Murphy, Jr.

Electronics Technician 2/C Clifford Clair Nolte, Fireman Michael A. O'Bannon, Communications Technician 1/C Donald R. Peppard, Seaman Apprentice Earl Raymond Phares, Quartermaster 3/C Alvin Henry Plucker.

Commissaryman 3/C Ralph Edward Reed, Seaman Dale Evans Rigby, Communications Technician 1/C David Lee Ritter, Communications Technician Seaman Steven Jay Robins, Seaman Recruit Richard Joseph Rosala, Seaman Recruit Roman Rosales, Seaman Edward Stuart Russell.

Engineman 2/C William D. Searborough, Lt. (J.G.) Frederick Carl Schumacher Jr., Communications Technician 1/C James Antwyne Shepard, Communications Technician 3/C John Allen Shilling, Seaman Apprentice John Robert Shingleton.

Fireman Apprentice Norman William Swear, Communications Technician Charles Ray Sterling, Communications Technician 3/C Angelo Salvator Strano, Fireman Lawrence Edwin Strickland.

Gunners Mate 2/C Kenneth Roy Wadley, Fireman Apprentice Steven Eugene Woelk, Communications Technician 2/C Elton Allen Wood, Engineman 3/C Darrel Dean Wright.

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President's Options Were Limited in Pueblo's Seizure

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Johnson's options in the Pueblo affair were constricted by two critical decisions made down the chain of command before the Chief Executive had even heard of the incident.

What is now known of the record goes to demonstrate once again how much a Commander-in-Chief is hemmed in by the actions of his subordinates.

These were the decisions involved:

News Analysis

1. The President was not told of the North Korean torpedo boat approach to the Pueblo or of its boarding until 2 a.m. Tuesday, Washington time, after the ship and its 83-man crew were securely in North Korean hands. By that time he was faced with an accomplished fact—the first hijacking of an American naval vessel by a foreign state in more than a century and a half.

2. The nuclear-powered carrier Enterprise and its accompanying vessels, which by chance had just left Sasebo, Japan, to return to duty off Vietnam, were turned about and headed toward the Sea of Japan opposite North Korea, again before Mr. Johnson was awakened. The President once more was faced with a fact—that American ships were heading toward North Korea in a show of force.

In the first instance, others made the fateful decision not to send aircraft to help the Pueblo, whether or not the captain had called for aid. Someone decided, without reference to the White House and apparently (although this is not yet certain) without reference to the Pentagon, to let the Pueblo's captain handle the torpedo boat problem.

That proved to be an irretrievable mistake that severely limited the President's ability to respond.

In the second instance, the President had no option open on whether to respond to the incident with a show of force. That decision was made down the line, apparently by CINCPAC, the joint command headquarters in Honolulu. Whether the Pentagon was even asked its advice is not yet clear. But certainly the President was not asked.

It may well be, of course, that Mr. Johnson, if he had been given the option, at once would have ordered the Enterprise and its naval train to head for North Korean waters. On the other hand he might have decided that to do so would be to overheat the already charged atmosphere and possibly limit diplomatic efforts to win release of ship and crew.

If further diplomatic efforts fail and with the naval force off North Korea, Mr. Johnson has the option now of using force in some form or of withdrawing the ships in the face of North Korean refusal to free the Pueblo.

The Pueblo case is not the first instance in which a President has found himself bound by what his subordinates have done.

President Eisenhower was boxed in by the mishandling of an inept cover story in the U-2 affair. President Kennedy, to some degree, was trapped in the Bay of Pigs debacle, something he did not let recur in the Cuban missile crisis. And President Johnson reacted, or, in the view of some over-reacted, to what he was told by the American ambassador in Santo Domingo in the Dominican intervention.

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Calls for Hard Line Mounting in Senate Over Ship Seizure

By the Associated Press

New and harsher calls for tough U.S. action—including use of air and seapower if necessary—followed initial diplomatic failures to retrieve the captured ship Pueblo from her North Korean captors.

Two senators said yesterday the United States might be forced to use tactical nuclear weapons if the Pueblo incident touches off a war with North Korea.

And at least one senator who has strongly opposed U.S. war policy in Vietnam, Sen. Frank Church, called seizure of the Pueblo and the 83 Americans aboard "an act of war."

The Idaho Democrat said "the ship must be returned at once, with all American aboard. Our national honor is at stake here."

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield and Chairman J. W. Fulbright, D-Ark., of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, counseled a cautious U.S. response to the incident.

Mansfield said the United States shouldn't "go off half-cocked," miltiarily.

The warnings of possible nuclear intervention if the incident explodes into war were sounded by two members of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sens., Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash., and Strom Thurmond, R-S.C.

Jackson, contending the U.S. commitment in Vietnam is occupying most of its available ground forces, said of North Korea: "If they make an all-out attack on South Korea, some kind of use will have to be made of tactical nuclear weapons."

Thurmond agreed with that assessment, adding: "We will use any weapons if necessary to protect America and her people."

Their comments came on a Metromedia television interview.

Sen. William B. Spong Jr., D-Va., urged Johnson to "take all necessary steps to secure the immediate return of the ship, its equipment and the members of the ship, its equipment and the members of its crew."

Sen. John Stennis, D-Miss., chairman of the Preparedness subcommittee, said the United States must "take al lsteps" including the use of force, if necessary, to bring about the prompt release of the Pueblo nd her crew.

Concern Over Pueblo Voiced in Soviet Press

By EDMUND STEVENS
Special to The Star

MOSCOW — Although Soviet diplomacy has so far declined the American request to act as a go-between in seeking the release of the USS Pueblo from North Korea, the Soviet press reflects mounting concern here lest the incident kindle another conflagration.

Moscoe naturally accepts unquestioningly the assertion of its North Korean ally that the Pueblo was captured in North Korean territorial waters.

Pravda's Washington correspondent, Boris Strelnikov, cabled his paper by way of confirmation that no less an authority than Sen. J. William Fullbright, D-Ark., admitted that this time the United States was caught red handed and that the Pueblo was indeed engaged in espionage.

Adds Strelnikov: "Sensible Americans do not believe the Pentagon version that the Pueblo was seized in international waters."

To the Russians the Pueblo readily invites comparison with the U2 incident when the U.S. spy plane piloted by Gary Powers was shot down over Sverdlovsk thousands of miles inside the U.S.S.R.

The Russians still recall "cover stories" floated by U.S. spokesmen before ex-Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev revealed the truth.

Almost as if anticipating the Pueblo incident, the Soviet press recently reprinted an article from the Italian weekly "Epoca" describing the sophisticated electronic worldwide espionage masterminded by the National Security Agency and the part played by intelligence gathering ships.

The seizure of the Pueblo coincided somewhat with the arrival in Moscow yesterday of a North Korean delegation headed by the deputy chief of state.

Conceivably the Pueblo incident and the attempt by North Korean infiltrators to kill South Korean President Chung Hee Park could be designed to warn the United States that continued escalation in Vietnam could lead to retaliatory action elsewhere in Asia.

But most observers here agree Moscow neither programs nor anticipates a major crisis in Korea. Otherwise, it's unlikely Premier Alexei N. Kosygin would have departed for New Delhi.

Soviet propaganda has had a field day playing up the U.S. incursion into Cambodia and the B52 crash in Greenland with its nuclear bomb load as examples of aggressive brinkmanship by the U.S. military and proof of the Soviet contention that American policy is the main threat to world peace.

Meanwhile, the rumblings from Korea virtually drowned out the peace-loving beeps generated by British Prime Minister Harold Wilson's Moscow talks.

The British press spokesman sought to encourage optimism while the talks were going on by liberal use of such adjectives as "frank, friendly and constructive" while disclosing nothing of substance.

The joint communique, however, said little. The main indication that on Vietnam the gap had been narrowed, as Wilson claimed, was the affirmation that both sides supported the principles of the Geneva agreements and would work jointly and separately for a just political solution.

Unlike the communique after Wilson's visit last year, it included no expression of regret at failure to reach agreement on Vietnam.

Romney Calls Ship Seizure Bid to Influence Viet War

NASHUA, N.H. (AP) — Michigan Gov. George Romney says North Korea's capture of a U.S. intelligence ship is "right in line" with a Communist effort to stir up trouble in hopes of influencing the outcome of the Vietnam war.

Romney, renewing his New Hampshire campaign for the Republican presidential nomination, said he was warned of such tactics during a world tour a month ago.

The Michigan governor faces one-sided odds in the presidential primary campaign he resumed today.

In a crowded home at Derry and at a French-American club in Manchester, Romney declined last night to say how he thinks the United States should handle North Korea's seizure of the American ship Pueblo.

He said he does not have the facts that are available to President Johnson and his advisers.

"I think it would be folly to make a decision on something you don't have all the facts on," Romney said.

He said there seems to be some question as to exactly where the American ship was when it was captured.

"The hard facts are you can't believe your own government anymore in this country," he said later.

(In Los Angeles, Gov. Ronald Reagan urged President Johnson to send warships into Wonsan harbor to free the Pueblo if North Korea does not release the ship within 24 hours, United Press International reported.

("I cannot for the life of me understand why someone in the United States government, particularly the President, has not said, that ship had better come out of that harbor in 24 hours or we are coming in after it," Reagan said. He called seizure of the Pueblo "the most disgraceful thing to happen, in my memory, to America.")

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THE LADDER OF ESCALATION

Johnson Takes an Option

By ORR KELLY
Star Staff Writer

President Johnson today took the first of a wide range of steps vailable in his ttempt to get back the USS Pueblo and its 83-man crew when he announced the call-up of some Air Force reservists.

In the last few years, both civilians like Dr. Herman Kahn, the author of a number of studies of escalation, and military leaders like Gen. Maxwell Taylor, who developed the policy of "flexible response," have written volumes on the options the President has in reacting to almost any emergency.

These studies, now thoroughly incorporated into the Pentagon's basic military strategy, are undoubtedly being relied upon as the President, his civilian advisers and the Joint Chiefs of Staff try to devise a method for getting the ship and crew back with the least possible difficulty.

In Kahn's studies, the seizure of a ship in international waters ranks very high up the scale of military escalation. But the situation would obviously be vastly more grave if the seizure had been undertaken by the Soviet Union rather than one of the smallest nations in the Communist bloc.

Before today's announcement and the further hint that some ground forces may be called to active duty, the U.S. already climbed a significant number of rungs up the ladder of escalation. It moved both diplomaitcally—with apparently unsuccessful attempts to enlist the aid of the Soviet Union—and militarily, with the dispatch of a nuclear task force headed by the carrier U.S.S. Enterprise to the Sea of Japan. This force is reported now about 200 miles off the Korean coast. This is short range for the ship's jet aircraft, but far enough out to give the ships great flexibility.

If diplomatic efforts fail entirely — and it is not yet clear that they are going to fail — the theory of escalation would call for the application of military pressure in small increments.

One such might simply be a show of force—positioning the Enterprise visibly in international waters ff the port of Wonsan, for example.

Another might be an action matched to that of the North Koreans—perhaps the seizure of one of their boats. This kind of action could not be matched exactly to the North Korean action because their navy dosen't have any ships as large as the Pueblo —an illustration of the difficulties a "superpower" has in dealing with a very small nation.

Slightly higher up the scale might be the destruction of some piece of North Korean property of the approximate value of the Pueblo. A coastal radar station might be shelled, for example.

Extremely unlikely in these early steps would be any effort to send Navy or Marine units into the port of Wonsan to take back the ship by force — especially while the North Koreans have the Pueblo's crew members as hostages.

Under the theory of escalation, these steps should be taken quite rapidly, with a pause after each step to see if the North Koreans are ready to give the ship back.

In theory, the North Koreans should be made to believe that the U.S. is prepared to use all necessary force to get the ship back—even eventual use of nuclear weapons. If they really believe this, the theory goes, they will accede to the U.S. demands at a low point on the escalation ladder rather than at a high point.

One of the most awkward difficulties facing Johnson and his advisers is that the North Koreans might not believe the U.S. is willing to risk war over one little boat—and it might require a number of steps up the escalation ladder before they become "believers."

Johnson's options and those of military commanders in the field were severely limited at the very beginning of the Pueblo incident because no one apparently realized in time that the harrassment of the Pueblo by North Korean patrol boats — something that happens frequently in many parts of the world — would suddenly turn into a seizure.

Whether or not someone in the military chain of command could have gotten effective help to Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, skipper of the Pueblo, after he saw that he was about to be boarded and called for help has not been answered.

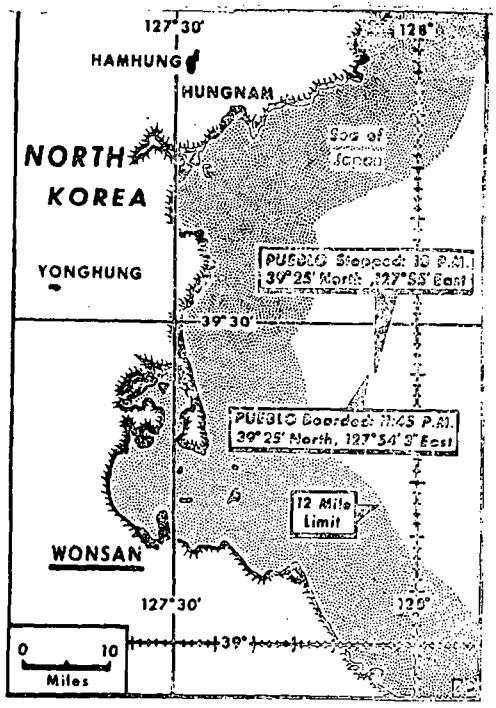
But Pentagon officials who declined to be quoted by name said that even if properly armed fighter planes had been close enough to have gone to the aid of the Pueblo, a number of other factors would have been considered. These include weather, the amount of remaining daylight, the position of the ship at the time help arrived, and, especially, potential enemy reaction.

The decision not to go to the aid of the Pueblo was made somewhere in the military chain of command short of Washington, these Pentagon officials said.

But they did not say how high up the chain that decision was made.

The incident began abgut 10 p.m. Washington time Monday. Pentagon officials said Bucher did not request help until 11:45 p.m. when the North Koreans moved to board the Pueblo.

Thus, by the time President Johnson, Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara were awakened between 12:23 and 2 a.m. Tuesday, the Pueblo was already in North Korean hands. The question they faced — and still face — was not how to prevent the seizure of the vessel, but how to get her back again



Map locates position reports of the USS Pueblo as released by the Defense Department. The shaded area shows the 12-mile international waters limit claimed by North Korea, which says the Pueblo was encountered at a latitude of 39.17 and a longitude of 127.46—about 7½ miles from land.

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SHIP

U.S. Prods North Korea

Continued From Page A-1

that diplomatic efforts to secure release of the Navy intelligence ship and its crew will be discontinued, Christian said: "This is only one action in this whole matter. Diplomatic efforts are continuing and we certainly hope they bear some fruit."

He said the air reservists are being called to active duty immediately under congressional authority provided in the 1967 Defense Department Appropriations Act.

This act provides that "until June 30, 1968, a president may, when he deems it necessary, order to active duty any unit of the ready reserve of an armed force for a period not to exceed 24 months."

Clifford's Hint

The White House announcement came just minutes afer Clark M. Clifford, Johnson's choice as the new defense secretary, said on Capitol Hill that reserves could be called up if there is a worsening of the situation in the Far East or if "developments" in the Pueblo incident.

Testifying at a Senate hearing on his nomination, Clifford made that comment in reply to a question from Sen. Margaret Chase Smith, R-Maine. He said the circumstances of the USS Pueblo's seizure "are exceedingly grave."

A call-up "could come about as a result of developments in the Far East, as a result of developments involved in the Pueblo—any stage this country's safety and security warrents, the President could well call up the reserves," he testified. However, he said he was not at liberty to say whether any specific decisions had been made.

The White House said today that the President conferred at breakfast with Secretary of State Dean Rusk, McNamara, U.N. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg, special assistant Walt W. Rostow and press aides George Christian and Tom Johnson.

U.N. Move Possible

There were strong hints that Goldberg's presence may indicate some possible diplomatic move through the United Nation's. Tom Johnson said the President and Goldberg "exchanged views as they always do in situations like this. They will be in touch again during the day."

Last night, the President conferred with the same men — except Goldberg. Clifford was on hand.

Johnson's mood is said to be one of "determination" not to let the Pueblo and its crew remain in Korean hands as the result of what he regards as a clear violation of international law. But he is equally determined to exhaust non-military means first to secure their release.

The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the USS Enterprise, and other warships and planes are now in position about 200 miles off the Korean coast, ready to move in if necessary.

But Johnson, after hearing the advice of his top diplomatic, military and security officers, has apparently chosen to give North Korea more time to release the 83-man crew and the U.S. Navy intelligence ship — seized around midnight EST Monday night off the North Korean coast by four Communist patrol boats.

The call-up, however, obviously adds to the pressure on North Korea.

The administration feels that the main goal of the United States should be the safe return of the crew. Military action probably would not achieve this end, so diplomatic efforts will be pursued until it is decided that there is no hope of getting the men back — or if the U.S. national interest makes it imperative to strike back at North Korea.

New Incident Would Do It

The "national interest" would become involved if a second incident occurred at sea, or some other obviously provocative action were taken by North Korea.

Part of the reason for the willingness to give the Communist regime in Pyongyang more time is a belief in some administration circles that North Korea may have meant to signal the United States yesterday that the crew would shortly be released.

The signal was detected in the last two paragraphs of a lengthy "confession" allegedly made by Commander Lloyd Mark Bucher, skipper of the Pueblo, and given wide circulation by North Korean radio.

Most of the document—clumsily written and more than likely composed by the Communist captors—was a listing of the "hostile acts" by the Pueblo. But what caught analysts' eyes here were the concluding words:

"I and my crew have perpetrated a grave criminal act, but our parents and wives and children at home are anxiously waiting for us to return home safe."

"Therefore, we only hope, and it is the greatest desire of myself and all my crew, that we will be forgiven leniently by the government of the Democratic People's Republic of (North) Korea."

A Signal?

Communists — and particularly Asian ones—put great importance on confessions. Generally, if a person has confessed fully he is treated leniently. The wording of Bucher's "confession" gives rise to hopes that North Korea was sending a signal that the crew would be released soon.

Most likely, the Koreans would want to study the intricate intelligence devices aboard the 179-foot vessel. Thus the men—if not released by themselves first—might have to wait until Communist intelligence officers had taken what they wanted from the ship.

But there was nothing in Washington yesterday received through official channels to give rise to much hope.

The Russians responded coldly to a U.S. "urgent request" that they use their "good offices" to secure the release of the ship and men.

Russian Blamed U.S.

State Department sources said that Ambassador Llewellyn E. Thompson had a very uncomfortable time with First Deputy Foreign Minister Vasily Kuznetsov on Tuesday. Kuznetsov apparently took North Korea's side and blamed the U.S. for the Pueblo incident.

He gave no sign he would send on the U.S. request to the North Koreans.

And the confrontation on Tuesday night at Panmunjom between U.S. and North Korean members of the 15-year old Military Armistice Commission ended up, as expected, in mutual recriminations. The Communists claimed that the ship was in their territorial waters. The U.S. side insisted there can be no question but the ship was 25 miles away fro mNorth Korea and obviously in international waters.

Locations Given

Position reports given out by the Defense Department indicate the North Korean patrol boats that captured the Pueblo approached from the east, apparently to intercept it.

The department said the Pueblo's position as indicated by the North Koreans' radar track was 39:25 North and 127:56 East.

The Pueblo's position at the time of the appearance of the first North Korean patrol boat about 10 p.m. EST Monday was given as 39:25 North, 127:55 East.

At 11:45 p.m., when the Pueblo reported she was being boarded, the U.S. ship gave her position as 39:25 North, 127:54.3 East.

The Pentagon has pinpointed these positions as about 25 miles east of the North Korean coast.

North Korea, however gave an "encounter" location of 39.17 north and 127.46 east—much closer to land.

The negative responses the diplomatic probing were expected, and many diplomats here believe that once things quiet down the Russians will use some "quite diplomacy" and try to get the release of the Pueblo.

Thus word is expected to go out to Moscow to try again with the Russians. Meanwhile Goldberg has been keeping U.N. Secretary General U Thant posted on developments.

Officially the United Nations is still in charge of military operations in South Korea—a carryover from the Korean war when 16 countries joined in a U.N. Command to fight against the combined North Korean-Red Chinese forces. The U.S. forces in Korea wear also a U.N. hat.

North Korea is an implacable enemy of the United Nations and each year Communist nations try to get the United Nations disengaged from Korea, but they have consistently failed. Thus it is not anticipated that Goldberg will ask the United Nations to do anything formally.

Russia would immediately veto any proposal for action—thus making tensions in the area more strained.

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Korea and Vietnam

President Johnson's call-up of 14,787 Air Force and Navy Air reservists yesterday is quite obviously aimed at demonstrating this country's resolve and increasing its capabilities in its confrontation with North Korea over the hijacking of the USS Pueblo earlier this week. The tactic is a familiar one, used by President Kennedy in the Cuban missile crisis, and earlier in a showdown over Berlin.

But another, perhaps better analogy comes quickly to mind — President Johnson's use of the Tonkin Gulf incident in August, 1964, as an opportunity to seek a sweeping congressional mandate for his Vietnam policy. Now the Pueblo affair has given the Administration a comparable justification for tapping the military reserves on a scale which would have been difficult to justify solely in terms of the highly controversial conflict in Vietnam.

It does not matter whether this element loomed large or small in the President's mind, just as it doesn't matter whether the Korean provocation can be proven to be part of a carefully orchestrated Communist campaign to strain our resources. Purpose aside, that is the plain effect; the simple fact, amply demonstrated over the last few days, is that our available military resources are spread thin, so much so that it appears that appropriate air action to rescue the Pueblo before it was captured was apparently not available. So the President had no choice but to do what he has tried so long to avoid a politically unpopular call-up of the reserves.

Now that it's done, there might be something to be said for dropping the other shoe. We have been comforting ourselves for many months with the thought that we can have it all—the war in Vietnam, the war against poverty, the butter and the guns. It is time, if not well past time, for the Nation to be told that just possibly we cannot have it all, that we may have to review and reorder our priorities, that the capacity of our enemies to expand our Asian involvement, at marginal risk to themselves, is very large.

All eyes are on the Pueblo and its 83-man crew, as Congress rings with cries for retribution by whatever means. But the Vietnam war's largest single buildup of enemy combat forces in one concentrated battle area now encircles some 5000 Marines in the remote base at Khesanh in the northwest corner of the South. A resulting Marine buildup has drawn large numbers of troops away from pacification work against Vietcong guerrillas in other parts of the country.

Meanwhile, Hanoi is feinting towards Thailand and threatening to upset the shaky stand-off in Laos. These last moves may be feints, and nothing more. The capture of the Pueblo may be sheer coincidence—or the result of some informal working arrangement between North Korea and North Vietnam with coaching from Moscow, or Peking. Whatever the case, the pressure from the enemy seems to be getting more intense. Our best hope of countering this pressure while avoiding a wider war almost certainly lies in a demonstration of our willingness to wage a wider war if we must. This calls, in turn, for striking a delicate balance and the President has wisely kept his counsel while he decides on countermoves. But he cannot count on the show of public willingness he will ultimately need unless he is willing himself to confront the public in more forthright fashion with the stark realities.

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Soviet Reaction Restrained

By Anatole Shub
Washington Post Foreign Service

MOSCOW, Jan. 25 — Soviet commentators today compared the Pueblo affair to the Tonkin Gulf incident of August, 1964, which brought on the first American bombing of North Vietnam. They also linked the adventures of the spy ship to both the B-52 crash in Greenland and events in Southeast Asia as evidence of Washington's "provocative" and "dangerous" course.

Soviet press comment was on the whole restrained, consisting mainly of relaying facts and opinions from The Washington Post, New York Times and other Western newspapers and press agencies.

The press appeared to be half a day behind events, which is not unusual here, and offered little evidence that the Soviet leaders have yet handed down a firm line on the crisis.

Thus, tonight's Izvestia left it to New York correspondent S. Kondrashov to compare the "highly strung, nervous atmosphere" in Washington to the time of the attack on the U.S. destroyer Maddox in the Tonkin Gulf.

Tass, in a long account by Moscow commentator Igor Orlov, concentrated on the "angry reaction of world opinion," recalled the U-2 case and similar spy incidents, and said the Pueblo affair "should be taken together" with "the invasion of neutral Cambodia by American troops" and the B-52 accident.

Intense Interest

While Soviet media showed no signs of attempting to fan a crisis atmosphere, Moscow observers had little doubt of the Kremlin's intense interest in the outcome of the affair. The Soviet Union is linked to North Korea by a mutual security treaty, and North Korea has in recent months played a key role in Soviet maneuvers within the world Communist movement.

The Soviet-North Korean treaty, signed in 1961 and valid until 1971, declares that if one of the parties "is exposed to an armed attack" the other party "will immediately render military assistance with the help of all the means at its disposal."

Within the world Communist movement, the North Koreans had been considered pro-Chinese until Peking launched its Cultural Revolution in July, 1966. Patient wooing by the Soviet Union since that time, and particularly in recent months, has brought fair results.

Friendship

North Korea was represented, although not at summit level, at Moscow's 50th anniversary celebrations last November. The Soviet leaders have also gone to considerable lengths in the hope of obtaining North Korean participation in next month's Budapest international communist "consultative meeting" and in the big world conference that the Russians hope will follow.

For example, the Soviet leaders deliberately renounced any hope of Yugoslav participation in those meetings largely because that would make North Korean attendance impossible. The North Koreans still resent Yogoslavia's support for the United Nations effort in the Korean war (which coincided with the Stalin-Tito conflict), and during their long pro-Chinese phase they firmly condemned Yogoslav "revisionism."

Still another price the Soviet Union appears to have paid for partly weaning North Korea away from China has been a muting of Russia's dialogue with Japan. There have been numerous indications since last summer that movement toward a big Soviet-Japanese deal — possibly including a peace treaty, return of some small islands to Japan, and major Japanese investments in Siberia — has been slowed down partly to appease North Korea, which is involved in several disputes with the Japanese.

Moscow Follows

These and other signs of North Korea's special place in Soviet calculations appear to indicate that Moscow is inclined to follow, rather than lead, Pyongyang in the Pueblo incident. That was the case on Tuesday, when Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vassily Kuznetsov told American Ambassador Llewellyn Thompson that Moscow would not intercede with Pyongyang, and that the United States should address its inquiries directly to the North Koreans.

This state of affairs could be promising or dangerous, depending on the North Koreans and the United States.

Should the North Koreans devise a face-saving compromise, such as keeping the Pueblo while releasing its crew, the Soviet Union would certainly be among the first to applaud. But should honor and pride in Pyongyang and Washington bring on a second Korean war, the Soviet Union, a thermonuclear power bound by treaty and a common frontier to North Korea, would be placed in a much more difficult position than by the conflict in Vietnam.

News agencies reported these foreign reactions to the Pueblo seizure and related events:

The Soviet news agency Tass termed the U.S. callup of 14,600 reserve airmen a "threatening act."

British Prime Minister Wilson, just back from an official visit to Moscow, said the United States did not ask him to discuss the incident while he was there. "It did not seem appropriate to raise it and I had not been asked to do so," Wilson said.

London's Foreign Office "deplored" the ship's seizure and said it was convinced the Pueblo had been in international waters. The Times of London, while declaring that there was no legal justification for the capture, cautioned that "there should be no reason in principle why the seizure . . . should lead to a major international crisis."

There was still no official French comment on the incident. The consensus in the press was that North Korea's action was a deliberate provocation as part of an effort to dilute the American focus on Vietnam, Donlad Louchheim of The Washington Post reported from Paris. There was muted press criticism of the United States for allowing itself to be put in such a situation. Nowhere was there was there any support for an American military reaction.

The Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano called for "prudence and sincerity," and warned that the Korean incident and the Vietnam fighting were further complicating the situation in Southeast Asia.

The official North Vietnamese newspaper Nhan Dan called the capture of the Pueblo a "fitting lesson" to U.S. "warmongers." Under the headline "U.S. provocateurs caught red-handed in Korea," the newspaper condemned the American "ballyhoo" over the incident and accused the United States of sending spy ships into Korean waters many times and of thousands of shellings and intrusions into North Korea.

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Reds Say Crewmen Must Be Punished;

Diplomatic

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

North Korea said early today that the crewmen of the USS Pueblo "must be punished" and warned that it is "fully prepared to cope with . . . any surprise attack" in retaliation for the Pueblo seizure.

The statement did not say whether North Korea planned to put the men on trial or was demanding their punishment by American authorities as a condition of their release.

The statement by Rodong Shinmoon, the organ of the North Korean Communist Party, was monitored in Tokyo several hours after Secretary of State Dean Rusk told a New York audience that the only satisfactory solution to the Pueblo crisis is "immediate" release of the ship and crew.

Earlier yesterday the United States turned to the United Nations Security Council in an effort to solve the crisis short of force. President Johnson instructed Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg to ask for an "urgent session" of the Security Council. It may be held today.

Call for Punishment

The North Korean statement, as reported by Associated Press, called its seizure of the Pueblo on Jan. 23 a "proper self-defense measure" and warned if there is a repetition of "provocations" it will "sternly punish the aggressors."

Then it said:

"The criminals who encroach upon others' sovereignty and commit provocative acts must receive deserving punishment.

"These criminals must be punished by law."

Referring to what it called "the clamor of the Johnson clique who are attempting to threaten someone with a ridiculous talk about a 'retaliatory measure,'" the paper said:

"If the U.S. imperialist aggressors think they can frighten our people with threat or blackmail, it is really a stupid illusion."

It said the Korean people "are fully prepared to cope with any provocation or surprise attack of the enemy and are completely ready to deal a hundred-fold, thousand-fold,

See PUEBLO, A11, Col. 1

retaliation to it, if it pounces upon us."

The paper said the Pueblo's captain had confessed that the ship intruded deep into North Korean waters. It said this was "an arrogant hostile act" by the United States and "a deliberate, premeditated provocation for stepping up their policy of war ignition in Korea."

Secretary Rusk's statement in his New York speech last night was the most precise yet from a high Administration official as to just what the Administration is seeking and, most importantly, as to the timing involved.

Rusk declared that the seizure of the ship in international waters was "without precedent and is intolerable and there can be no satisfactory result short of the prompt, may I say immediate, release of that ship and its officers and crew."

Tension was mounting in Washington as the President sought a diplomatic way out of the crisis. In announcing the request for a U.N. session, the White House said it reflected Mr Johnson's "earnest desire to settle this matter promptly and if at all possible by diplomatic means."

The statement linked the seizure of the Pueblo with "agresive actions" by North Korea across the demilitarized zone against South Korea.

First reaction from the U.N. was that the Council might ask North Korea to send a representative to give its side of the controvery, though the prospects that the Communists would agree are considered dim.

More hope for action is placed in a second effort to enlist the aid of the Soviet Union in winning release of the ship. A second message to Moscow was reported to be en route last night. The first effort resulted in a face-to-face rebuff on Tuesday to Ambassador Llewellyn E. Thompson when he made the request to Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vasily Kuznetsov.

Some reports here suggested there was hope that the Pueblo's crew might be released because the Communists had broadcast a purported confession by the ship's captain expressing hope for forgiveness. It also was noted that the full transcript of the Mixed Armistice Commission meeting on Tuesday contained this statement by the North Korean representative:

"All you have to do is to admit military provocations and aggressive acts committed by your side, apologize for them and assure this (conference) table that you will not re-commit such criminal acts."

But this large demand was not coupled with any promise. Furthermore, there is every reason to believe the crewmen will be subject to lengthy interrogation. Many of them are highly trained in the most secret American intelligence techniques, which are of surpassing interest to all the Communist nations.

Because the Soviet Union is the most interested of all in these techniques and in the ship's equipment, much of which apparently was not destroyed, the belief here is that any Soviet action to free the vessel and crewmen would have to wait for some time.

President Johnson had a series of meetings yesterday on the crisis, beginning with breakfast. Present were Rusk, Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, Goldberg, Presidential Assistant Walt W. Rostow and press secretaries George Christian and Tom Johnson.

The same group, plus incoming Defense Secretary Clark M. Clifford, had met the evening before, Christian told newsmen yesterday.

Christian's stress during the day was on further diplomatic efforts. He told reporters that "diplomatic efforts are continuing and we certainly hope they bear some fruit in the very near future."

The only word from the State Department was that diplomatic efforts were continuing.

The U.N. move was decided on at a White House luncheon meeting, Christian said. Goldberg then dispatched a formal request to Security Council President Aga Shahi of Pakistan.

A public debate at the U.N. will raise serious problems. The Soviet Union will be bound to defend its fellow Communist state, North Korea, and veto any move against it. Several other nations on the Council this year are generally hostile to the United States, especially over the Vietnam war.

Furthermore, by linking to the Pueblo incident the North Korean actions against South Korea, the United States is indirectly involving the U.N. itself.

The forces in South Korea, although now reduced, to South Korean and American troops with a handful of officers as observers from a few other nations, are technically under U.N. command.

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Pueblo's Orders Restricted Gunfire

The standing instructions for the USS Pueblo were to avoid an international incident by moving out of the area if harassed rather than use her guns, it was learned yesterday.

The ship's three .50-caliber machine guns were to be kept under canvas unless the survival of the ship depended on them.

These rules for ferret, or spy, ships like the Pueblo may explain why her skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, waited until it was too late to resist the North Korean boarding Monday night.

Reliable sources said last night that North Koreans boarded the Pueblo without one shot being fired by the Americans. The injuries to four Pueblo crewmen, it was learned authoritatively, came from the explosions Bucher set off to destroy the ship's secret spy equipment.

Backed by Superiors

The very topside of the Navy is standing behind Bucher on the basis of facts on hand so far. Top officers regard Bucher's decisions as consistent with his instructions to avoid trouble.

Mrs. Rose Bucher, wife of the Pueblo skipper, said in an interview last night that Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, Chief of Naval Operations, had expressed the Navy support of her husband's decisions in a telephone call yesterday.

The Pueblo is not a fighting ship, but a passive one with the job of eavesdropping on communications all around it. Her crew are electronic specialists rather than experienced gunners used to rushing to battle stations.

Navy officers reason that Bucher saw the four North Korean patrol boats as another in a long series of harassing

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Associated Press

Mrs. Bucher listens to tape recording allegedly made by her husband, skipper of the captured USS Pueblo.

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Pueblo's Orders Restricted Gunfire

actions. Even after the North Koreans forced their way aboard at gunpoint, Bucher could have reasoned this was a temporary tweaking of the United States, rather than a plan to capture the ship.

There are no sea cocks on the Pueblo that could have been opened to let enough water into the hull to sink the ship. And sources said such ships do not ordinarily carry explosives other than the small ones needed to destroy spy equipment and codes.

This would seem to rule out any chance of Bucher scuttling his ship. And if he did so, the lives of his 82 crewmen could have been lost—either through freezing in the cold water where the Pueblo lay or from the North Koreans opening fire on them.

Bucher's only chance, then, seemed to be help from other U.S. ships or planes. This did not arrive from the time Bucher sent out his call about midnight Monday (EST) until the undisclosed time—at least two hours later — when the Pueblo was taken into the North Korean port of Wonsan.

It was also learned yesterday that the Pueblo lay dead in the water with water collection bottles strung over the side when first accosted by the North Koreans. The water samples were part of the Pueblo's oceanagraphic research.

Richard Halloran, Washington Post correspondent in Seoul, said sources there claimed the Pueblo's crew was taken off the ship shortly after capture. The Pueblo's officers, he said, then were flown to Pyongyang but the enlisted men presumably were kept in Wonsan.

The Pueblo's capture had all the earmarks of a long-planned operation, Halloran wrote.

The North Korean Defense Minister reportedly flew to Wonsan to inspect the ferret ship.

The fate of Bucher was still not known here last night. North Korea's radio sent out a broadcast of Bucher's alleged confession.

The voice, alleged to be Bucher's, said "I and my crew have perpetrated such a grave criminal act, but our parents and wives and children at home are anxiously waiting for us to return in safety.

"Therefore," the broadcast continued, "we only hope, and it is the greatest desire of myself and all my crew, that we will be forgiven leniently by the government of the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea."

In San Diego, Bucher's wife said after hearing a recording of the broadcast: "That is not my husband's voice. It does not sound in any remote way like my husband. The inflections and sound were not his."

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U.S. Turns to U.N.

Military

By George C. Wilson
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Johnson called up 14,787 air reservists yesterday as the United States moved to put pressure on North Korea to release the USS Pueblo and its crew of 83 men.

Just what military role the reservists will play was not made clear at the Pentagon or anywhere else in Washington.

The men called up were told to report to their units by midnight Friday. They were not told in their orders where they would go from there.

Can Be on Duty 2 Years

The reservists, under the authority the President implemented yesterday, can be kept on active duty as long as two years.

Congressional leaders, who often are briefed in advance on such announcements, were taken by surprise by the call-up.

[United Press International quoted informed sources in Seoul last night as saying two squadrons of Air Force fighter-bombers and interceptors—about 100 planes—had moved to South Korean bases and that the nuclear-powered carrier Enterprise with at least another 100 planes may have moved to within 100 miles of Wonsan, the North Korean port where the Pueblo was taken. But a spokesman said reports that the carrier would move to within a few miles of Wonsan and broadcast an ultimatum were "unthinkable."]

The last time reservists were called up was during the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. The 14,000 men stayed on active duty for one month. In the 1961 Berlin crisis, President Kennedy called up 148,000 men. Most were on active duty about 10 months.

The type of units called up yesterday showed that the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara believed that the U.S. air arm needed strengthening.

Precautionary Move

Phil G. Goulding, Pentagon information chief, said the call-up was "a precautionary measure to strengthen our forces."

All the units activated yesterday are for air warfare or

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for airlifting troops or supplies.

All told, there are 372 planes attached to the reserve units. Two hundred of them are F-100s, a supersonic jet that can carry a big load of bombs and rockets.

The rest of the reserve fleet activated consists of 72 Navy A-4 and F-8 fighters; 46 transports, mostly C-124s, and 54 RF-101 reconnaissance planes.

There are 872 pilots among the 9340 Air Force National Guardsmen, 4847 Air Force reservists and 600 Navy air reservists called up from the District of Columbia and 16 states.

The White House said it still hoped for a diplomatic, rather than a military, solution to the Pueblo crisis. But White House Press Secretary George Christian did not rule out a call-up of ground forces.

"When and if decisions are made on a callup of Army and Marine Corps reservists," Christian said, "appropriate announcements will be made promptly."

Goulding said the military chiefs and McNamara had recommended the call-up to the President. He would not say when the recommendation was made but said the decision on it came yesterday morning.

The President's activation of reservists amidst the Vietnam war undercuts the Administration's steady insistence that U.S. forces are not overextended in the world.

McNamara long has pointed to the Vietnam war as a model of Pentagon manpower management since it has been fought without calling reservists.

Military leaders have complained that his policy provides little leeway for handling unforeseen military emergencies. They warned they would have to turn to the reserves to handle them.

Most members of Congress who would comment on the call-up approved the show of strength, but some feared it would lead to a larger war.

Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) called it "a natural sequence in the course of world events." Rep. L. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.) termed it a wise move.

In Boston, Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.) said the callup was "a very disturbing action" because it disrupted family and business lives. He said he would like more information on the Pueblo seizure; including "where the ship was and where it had been."

Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) said: "The President is making every effort to convey to the world—particularly the Communist World—the seriousness of this situation. He is exhausting all alternatives short of using force."

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (Mont.) said the action "underlines the seriousness of the situation that now confronts us" and indicates a possibility of the widening of the difficulties that confront us in the Far East." Sen. Ernest Gruening (D-Alaska), a leading war critic, called it an "alarming indication" of a bigger war.

While most reaction centered on the Pueblo incident, the call-up could ease some of the strains of the Vietnam war. All through the war, American airplanes coming off the production line have barely kept pace with those lost in the field.

This heavy demand for aircraft in Vietnam left little for deployment to handle emergencies in South Korea.

The supply of aircraft may have figured in the military decision not to try to rescue the Pueblo Tuesday when the ship was being forced into the North Korean port of Wonsan by four North Korean patrol boats.

Defense officials would not comment on reports yesterday that what few U.S. Air Force planes were available in South Korea to help the Pueblo could not be sent out because they were strapped with nuclear weapons. Congressional sources said they had been told the planes could not be refitted with conventional ordnance in time to help the seized ship.

Military sources said the air cover decision went beyond the airplanes and their ordnance and took in a host of policy considerations, including the escalatory effect of taking on the North Korean air force to avenge the Pueblo.

The U.S. 5th Air Force customarily rotates fighters from Japan into and out of South Korea. The usual mix of F-4 and F-100 fighter-bombers can carry either conventional or nuclear bombs, but the Pentagon would not disclose what numbers were on hand at the time of the Pueblo incident.

The air base facilities in South Korea are extensive enough to accommodate a big influx of planes and men, if the President decides to send reservists there.

One of the many unanswered questions about the Pueblo affair is why planes in Japan did not go to the aid of the ship when the call for help went out.

At jet fighter speeds, the U.S. planes could have reached the scene in less than an hour. And these fighters must have been armed for conventional warfare since Japan does not allow nuclear weapons on her soil.

The U.S. would have had to obtain prior consent from Japan to dispatch planes from her bases to help the Pueblo according to the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

The ministry spokesman, Kinya Niiseki, said yesterday that the U.S. did not make such a request.

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President Warns N. Korea Seizure Cannot Be Accepted

By Carroll Kilpatrick and Warren Unna
Washington Post Staff Writers

President Johnson broke his silence yesterday for the first time since North Korea seized the Pueblo by warning that the action "cannot be accepted."

Speaking from the White House on all television networks, the President said that while the United States was still pursuing diplomatic efforts to persuade North Korea to return the ship, it also was taking "certain precautionary" military steps to prepare "for any contingency that might arise in the area."

The President's brief statement was made in midafternoon following a stern State Department warning to North Korea against treating the captured crew as criminals subject to trial and punishment.

Mr. Johnson held a series of meetings with his advisers on what White House Press Secretary George Christian said was an almost continuous basis.

As other Administration statements have done, the President linked the seizure of the Pueblo with "aggressive actions" by North Korea against South Korea.

He said that the North may be attempting to "intimidate" the South and interrupt its "growing spirit of confidence and progress" and to divert South Korean and American resources from Vietnam.

Calling the ship seizure "yet another wanton and aggressive act," he said:

"Clearly this cannot be accepted."

The military actions taken in connection with the Korean crisis "do not involve a reduction in any way of our forces in Vietnam," Mr. Johnson said.

Earlier Christian was asked

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whether Thursday's call-up of certain Air Force and Navy reservists was also required by the Vietnam situation. He replied that action was "related directly to the situation in Korea and nothing else."

The warning to North Korea not to treat the crew of the Pueblo as criminals came from the State Department after North Korea's radio in Pyongyang broadcast a commentary from the official Communist Party organ, Nodong Sinmun.

The article said that "the criminals who have violated the sovereignty of another country and perpetrated a provocative act must receive due punishment. These criminals must be dealt with by law."

Action Called Illegal

In response, State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey told his noon press briefing:

"In our view, this statement is a flagrant travesty of the facts. It is the action of North Korea which is, and has been, illegal from the outset.

"The U.S. Government would consider any such move by North Korea to be a deliberate aggravation of an already serious situation," McCloskey warned.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk, emerging from a closed meeting with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, termed the Pyongyang broadcast "reprehensible." He said if North Korea really wants to deal with the 83 captured U.S. Navy men according to law, "it would release them by sundown."

No Deadline Set

Queried by reporters regarding issuing any deadline to North Korea for the crew's return, Rusk said that while no deadline had been set, "Today would be a good time to turn it (the ship) back."

The Administration yesterday made public two other moves it has made in trying to secure the return of the Pueblo and its crew:

- The International Committee of the Red Cross has been "most urgently" requested "to intercede on behalf of the personnel . . . to inquire about their welfare and physical condition; to request their early release; and to offer ICRC assistance in arrangements for their release."

In Geneva, International Red Cross headquarters said officials already had been in contact with North Korean Red Cross authorities.

The ICRC was particularly asked to secure the repatriation of the seriously wounded. To date, Washington has been under the impression that four of the Pueblo's crew were injured, one critically, during the blowing up of the ship's detection equipment. But at the Military Armistice Commission meeting at the Panmunjom border Tuesday night, North Korean Gen. Pak Chung Kuk referred to the "killing and wounding" of "several."

- State Department officials briefed representatives of the 15 nations who had joined the United States in providing troops for the United Nations push-back of North Korea's invasion of South Korea in 1950 to 1953.

The thrust of the briefing was to emphasize the attempts being made to solve the crisis peacefully. According to one of the diplomats attending, no one thought it proper to ask what might happen if the peace attempts fail.

Nations Listed

The 15 nations represented were: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

In Moscow, U.S. Ambassador Llewellyn E. Thompson called on Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko in a second attempt to get the Soviets to intercede with North Korea for release of the Pueblo and its crew. Indications were that the Soviets still have shown no interest in passing on the U.S. request.

State Department spokesman McCloskey explained that the United States now is making the same request through "A number of diplomatic channels." One of these, it was learned, is Japan, the U.S. ally that lies closest to North Korea and a nation that has conducted periodic negotiations with Pyongyang in the past regarding the repatriation of Japan's many Korean-born residents.

In its attempts to gain communication with North Korea, a nation with whom the United States has no diplomatic relations, diplomats here are perusing the lost of nations with whom North Korea does have ties.

This includes all the Communist nations, as well as Yugoslavia, Guinea, Mali, Algeria, Yemen, Egypt, Indonesia, Mauritania, Cambodia, Brazzaville Congo, Syria, Tanzania and Somalia.

In addition, North Korea maintains consulates general in Rangoon, New Delhi, Colombo and Baghdad.

One top foreign diplomat, Thai Foreign Minister Thanat Thoman, was in Washington yesterday to confer with Secretary of State Rusk. Thailand is known to feel that even if the United States went to war with North Korea, it is a sufficient global power to be able to maintain its campaign in Vietnam undiminished.

After he briefed members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday, Rusk told reporters the Pueblo had been in "international waters at all stages according to every indication that we have."

This gave top-level affirmation to previous Administration insistence that the Pueblo had never transgressed into North Korea's territorial waters.

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Uncertainty Held Back U.S. Planes

By George C. Wilson
Washington Post Staff Writer

There were plenty of American planes on hand that could have come to the rescue of the Pueblo had commanders decided that was the right move, defense officials said last night.

Fighters in Japan and Okinawa were not sent out, these officials said, because of the uncertainty of what had happened and unfavorable flying conditions.

The Pueblo was first approached by a North Korean patrol boat about 10 p.m. Monday. Commander Lloyd M. Bucher, her skipper, called for help about 11:45 p.m. when the North Koreans began boarding. The last message from the Pueblo was at 12:12 a.m.

Although the United States had few fighters in South Korea, defense officials said there was a total of about 450 attack planes that could have reached the Pueblo in a hurry from bases in Japan and Okinawa.

Japanese spokesmen have said no planes could have taken off without their advance permission. But Washington sources said yesterday this was not a factor in the Pueblo case.

It would have taken the North Koreans at least two hours to get the slow (12.2 knots top speed) Pueblo into the port of Wonsan from hed position 26 miles outside it. Jets could have reached her from Japanese bases in less than an hour. Okinawa, about 900 miles from Wonsan, would have been a tighter squeak since flying time for a loaded fighter-bomber would be close to two hours.

But as in the case of the attack on the U.S. spy ship Liberty during the Israeli-Arab war last year, field commanders were not sure what had happened to the Pueblo nor whether its hijacking was part of a larger North Korean military campagn's.

In this latter case, the officials argued, the military commanders would have had to risk taking on the North Korean air force.

Also, these officials said, there were snow flurries and a low weather ceiling — hardly ideal flying conditions for fighters trying to shoot the Pueblo predicament without sinking her in the process.

As for Bucher's handling of the situation, defense officials could find no faults.

been going on more than a

North Korean harrassment of American ferret ships has been going on for more than a year, they said, so Bucher had no way to know until the boarding that the Pueblo's predicament was different.

A sister ship of the Pueblo, the Banner, had been harrassed by 11 patrol boats for 2½ hours at an undisclosed location in the Far East within the last 15 months these officials said.

Defense officials stuck to the line that ferret ships, or any other kind, have a perfect right to sail on international waters. The United States does not intend to provide ferret ships with armed escorts, despite the fate of the Pueblo, according to these officials.

They said the United States could pick up 15 to 20 Soviet reconnaissance trawlers in a night if it wanted to.

The callup of 14,787 air reservists signified the U.S. intention to assert this freedom of the seas, defense officials said. They made it clear that the top priority is to get the Pueblo's crew back safe and sound.

These officials did not express any alarm over what secrets the Communists might uncover as they sift through the Pueblo's eavesdropping equipment. They really critical material like codes, defense officials indicated, had been destroyed as the North Koreans came aboard the Pueblo.

Peking Finally Tells Of Pueblo's Capture

From News Dispatches

Radio Peking last night broke Communist China's silence about the seizure of the USS Pueblo by broadcasting the North Korean version of the incident.

The 120-word report was the next-to-last item on the radio's 11 p.m. newscast. It contained no threat of Chinese intervention.

The broadcast, monitored in Hong Kong, said that according to the (North) Korean Central News Agency the Pueblo was captured in Korean waters after a struggle during which several Americans were killed or wounded and more than 80 were captured. It said the Pueblo's captain, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, had confessed that he was carrying out espionage activities inside North Korean territorial waters.

In other developments:

- The Japanese Socialist Party asserted that the Pueblo had been seized because of "a dangerous U.S. conspiracy and part of its reckless war policies." The statement was issued on the final day of the Party's three-day national convention. It urged the United States to seek "a peaceful solution to the tense situation."
- In Moscow, the official Tass news agency reported from Peking that Communist China has charged that U.S. aircraft violated Chinese air space Thursday. Tass said the Chinese announced they had delivered their 449th "serious warning" in connection with the alleged incident.

New Bucher 'Statement' Broadcast

From News Dispatches

TOKYO, Jan. 27, (Saturday) —The North Korean News Agency (KCNA) today reported on an alleged interview with the captain of the Pueblo in which he said he and his crew were being treated well by their North Korea captors.

Cmdr. Lloyd Bucher, according to KCNA, said he was "deeply moved, first and foremost, by the humanintarian treatment accorded us.

"We are very serious criminals . . . but we are being treated well . . . we are getting on in good health and without any in convenience whatever in our life."

Bucher said he and his crew have no excuse for their "grave" crime, according to the agency report.

"I think we should be punished in according with the criminal law of the Democratic people's Republic of Korea. But we were tempted by money and honor to commit usch a crime", Bucher was quoted as saying.

North Korean newspapers had earlier demanded Bucher and his crew be tried as criminals. Earlier broadcasts and tapes of Bucher "confessing" that the Pueblo was in North Korean waters have been labeled as frauds by Bucher's wife.

In Washington, the United States warned North Korea that any move to try the captured crew and officers of the Pueblo as criminals would inflame an "already serious situation."

Russian Spy Ship Near Enterprise

A Soviet spy ship like the Pueblo is sailing right along with the carrier Enterprise and its task force off South Korea, defense officials said last night.

They identified the ferret ship as the trawler Gidroglog and pointed to her presence as an example of the international acceptance of the right of these vessels to operate on the high seas.

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Rep. Rivers Asks Ultimatum

Chairman L. Mendel Rivers of the House Armed Services Committee broke a generally solid cordon of congressional support for a policy of restraint yesterday by advocating a 24-hour ultimatum to the North Koreans.

Rivers, a South Carolina Democrat, said that unless the captured Navy ship Pueblo is returned within that time, a North Korean city should be destroyed by aerial attack.

"I'd select a target," Rivers told a United Press International reporter. "I'd do like Truman did. Let one of them disappear."

The Armed Services Committee's chairman contrasted with a bipartisan chorus of endorsement for President Johnson's decision to withhold any threat of direct retaliation, while exploring diplomatic channels for the return of the surveillance ship and its crew.

While most comment was carefully nonpartisan, Rep. Melvin R. Laird (R-Wis.) suggested in an interview with the Milwaukee Journal that the Johnson Administration had been caught napping unnecessarily.

"I thought we learned something at Pearl Harbor," Laird said. The Congressman, a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, said destroyer escort protection had been removed from the Korean area six months ago. He also said that eight fighters based at a South Korean airport within minutes' flying time of the Pueblo were not operational.

Laird also contended that the North Koreans had signaled their intention to attack the Pueblo in a radio broadcast in early January, complaining that the electronic surveillance ship was "causing considerable difficulty."

Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) told a New York press conference "a revolt is brewing in Congress" over the Pueblo seizure. He said he would recommend an investigation of the incident by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee "unless the American people are given the facts before this weekend."

The general restraint in the comment on the incident included the remarks of two men campaigning in New Hampshire against President Johnson.

Gov. George Romney of Michigan, a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, and Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.), who is opposing Mr. Johnson for the Democratic renomination, both counseled caution.

McCarthy, while not ruling out the use of force, said in Nashua he believed the Pueblo can be recovered "without a real military exchange."

Romney, campaigning in [illegible], said "we ought to use every means" to get the ship back, but added that the choice of tactics must be left to the President, because no one else has the requisite information.

A third New Hampshire visitor, retired Lt. Gen. James H. Gavin, said in Hanover he was "appalled" at the lack of air cover for the Pueblo and said "the use of force to suppress piracy" was fully justified.

Among the many statements urging restraint and commending the President's "patience" was one signed by the heads of five major Protestant denominations, the United Church of Christ, the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., the Methodist Church, the International Convention of Christian Churches and the American Baptist Convention.

However, a separate telegram from 14 other religious and civic organization officials combined general support of the President's stand with a criticism of the mobilization of Reserve forces.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana led a number of lawmakers in praising the President's stand and cautioning against any "rash act" that could lead to another Asian land war. Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) and Sen. Frank J. Lausche (D-Ohio) took similar stands.

Rep. Paul Findley (R-Ill.) offered a resolution placing Congress on record in support of any action the President would take to recover the Pueblo and its crew.

Britain Calls 'Hijacking' Of Pueblo an Outrage

By Alfred Friendly
Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON, Jan. 26—British Foreign Secretary George Brown repeated today his conviction that the American ship Pueblo was in international waters when the North Koreans seized it. He said Britain was "outraged."

His statement to the House of Commons was made after he attended a meeting of the Cabinet's Defense and Overseas Policy Committee called by Prime Minister Wilson, and accordingly it was taken as a position approved by the government.

Questioned on what mission the Pueblo was performing, Brown said:

"We know very well there are activities in which everybody is engaged. There are ships off our coasts and we know what they are doing. We must be sensible about each other's activities in this respect."

• The seizure was probably a deliberate provocation, aimed both to North Korean politico-military ends and at making America's campaign in Vietnam more difficult.

• It is essential for the United States to "play it cool" and not be provoked into hostilities on a second Asian front.

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By Wally McNamee—The Washington Post

The President: "I am confident the American people will exhibit . . . the determination and unity . . . to see it through."

Text of Johnson's Statement on Crisis

Text of President Johnson's message to the American people on the Pueblo crisis:

My fellow Americans:

Over the past 15 months, the North Koreans have pursued a stepped-up campaign of violence against South Korean and American troops in the area of the dimilitarized zone.

Armed raider teams in large numbers have been sent into South Korea to engage in sabotage and assassination.

On Jan. 19, a 31-man team of North Korean raiders invaded Seoul with the object of murdering the president of the Republic of Korea.

In many of these aggressive actions, Korean and American soldiers have been killed and wounded.

The North Koreans are apparently attempting to intimidate the South Koreans and to interrupt the growing spirit of confidence and progress in the Republic of Korea.

These attacks may also be an attempt by the Communists to divert South Korean and United States military resources which together are resisting the aggression in Vietnam.

This week, the North Koreans committed yet another wanton and aggressive act by seizing an American ship and its crew in international waters.

Clearly, this cannot be accepted. We are doing two things.

First, we are today taking the question to the Security Council of the United Nations. The best result would be for the whole world community to persuade North Korea to return our ship and our men and to stop the dangerous course of aggression against South Korea.

We have been making other diplomatic efforts as well. We shall continue to use every means available to find a prompt and peaceful solution to the problem.

Second, we have taken and are taking certain precautionary measures to make sure that military forces are prepared for any contingency that might arise in the area. These actions do not involve a reduction in any way of our forces in Vietnam.

I hope that the North Koreans will recognize the gravity of the situation which they have created.

I am confident that the American people will exhibit in this crisis, as they have in other crises, the determination and unity which are necessary to see it through.

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Soviets Seem Oblivious

U.S. Envoy Reacts, But Not Kremlin

By Anatole Shub
Washington Post Foreign Service

MOSCOW, Jan. 26—Once again, as in many a historic crisis, Moscow seems the calmest city in the world.

Newspapers report on the Pueblo affair on inside pages, giving greater stress to Premier Kosygin's visit to India, the B-52 crash in Greenland, the 1967 Soviet economic statistics and the 50th birthday greetings sent to Rumanian President Nicolae Ceaucescu.

The papers, and medium-level Soviet officials encountered at various diplomatic receptions, are running half a day or more behind events—and offer little or no indication that the Soviet Union is in any way involved in the crisis. The press did not report that Kosygin had termed the Pueblo's activities "piracy" or that America is seeking Soviet intercession with Pyongyang.

Same in 1941

To old Moscow hands, all this seems normal.

One veteran recalled that the city had only begun to stir at noon on June 22, 1941, eight hours after the Nazis had crossed the Soviet frontiers.

Western diplomats, too, contribute their share to the "eye of the hurricane" calm. Newsmen only learned that U.S. Ambassador Llewellyn Thompson was conferring with Soviet officials today by accident—en route to a reception, several reporters noticed the ambassadorial Lincoln, with Stars and Stripes flying, outside the Foreign Ministry.

The Ambassador later admitted it was his car but said nothing else about his mission. Still later an informed source owned up to the fact that Thompson had been seeing "them" indeed, "virtually every day."

[In Washington it was learned that Thompson saw Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko today but got no further than during his earlier attempt in trying to persuade the Soviet Union to press Pyongyang to return the Pueblo and its crew.]

Back at Work

The Soviet news agency Tass had disclosed on Monday that Thompson had seen Kosygin, and Secretary of State Dean Rusk had disclosed Tuesday that Thompson had met Soviet Deputy Minister Vassily Kuznetsov. But today's talks—plus anything the Ambassador may have been doing Wednesday and Thursday—remain top secret so far as Muscovites are concerned.

Nevertheless, it was apparent, from the light in his eye as well as his legendary discretion, that "Tommy is working again." For some months, the Ambassador's well-wishers here had been fretting that America's most skillful and experienced negotiator was being given nothing much to negotiate.

Vietnam probes were being conducted almost everywhere else, and discussions on the missile race, proposed by the United States almost a year ago, have yet to get off the ground. It is clear today, however, that at least one particular national resource is very much back in business.

Other Western diplomats seem agreed that the Pueblo incident is not a result of Soviet instigation, that it is presenting the Soviet leaders with very ticklish decisions, and that American publicizing of the effort to obtain Soviet mediation will not make it easier for the Russians.

The publicity inevitably given to the Soviet stand at the U.N. Security Council is also considered likely to be unwelcome to the Kremlin. If the Soviet leaders are to exercise any sort of influence on the North Koreans, it is said here, they would doubtless prefer to do so in utmost secrecy—now virtually impossible. Now, the Chinese are poised and ready, pens in hand, to denounce anything that remotely resembles Soviet-American "collusion" to "betray" the North Koreans.

Such, at least, is the thinking among the relative handful of Western observers with privileged access to outside news sources — while Moscow sleeps.

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U.S. Eases Approach To Build Case for U.N.

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

News Analysis

President Johnson's short and exceedingly softly worded statement yesterday on the Pueblo incident, plus Ambassador Arthur Goldberg's presentation at the United Nations, demonstrate a clear decision to go the full diplomatic route before considering military action.

Furthermore, the two statements strongly indicate that the President will want a United Nations umbrella over any military move he might consider.

These implicit decisions rest on a simple fact: as Defense Secretary-designate Clark M. Clifford told a Senate committee on Thursday, none of the various suggestions for military action will "get our 83 men back" and that is the chief aim.

It follows, logically, that retrieval of the ship, by now doubtless picked to pieces by intelligence experts anyway, is not worth the risk of war.

Consider, first, that the President's statement yesterday afternoon seemed anticlimactic because it added nothing to the public record about the incident or the President's intentions. In fact, however, there were several key points in Mr. Johnson's handling of the incident:

• He used five paragraphs to describe North Korea's "campaign of violence"

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across the border into the Republic of Korea, apparent acts in defiance of the United Nations Command. Envoys of the 16 nations involved in the 1950-53 Korean War were called in collectively yesterday by the State Department.

• Only after setting up that international and U.N. context did the President come to the Pueblo affair. When he did he referred to it as "yet another" wanton and aggressive act, even though the Pueblo was outside Korean waters according to the United States and thus not a U.N. command matter.

• In making his first public comment on the crisis, the President said simply that the seizure cannot be accepted." Here he moved completely away from the verbal esculation of the past three days by Secretary of State Dean Rusk who had called the seizure an act of war" and declared that the only satisfactory result would be "the prompt, may I say immediate, release" of ship and crew.

The fact is Administration officials know in their bones there is going to be no "immediate" release of ship and crew, barring a total reversal in the lengthy record of North Korean hostility to the United States and the U.N.

The President thus was implicitly recognizing that as a fact and choosing to build the best possible record against the Pyongyang regime. Some Administration officials see the Goldberg statement as a rare opportunity for the United States to close the credibility gap with all but these who totally refuse to listen.

Mr. Johnson rattled no rockets; he spoke only of "precautionary measures" for any possible "contingency."

The combination of the President's approach allows private diplomacy an opportunity. Here the Soviet Union quite probably will have the key role, since Moscow is tied to Pyongyang by a mutual security treaty.

United Nations debate means the Soviets will back fully the North Koreans in public; what they do in private may be—Washington hopes — something else again. But it may take a good deal of time. The last two Americans, helicopter pilots, captured by the North served a year before release. The President faces a similar prospect in the case of the Pueblo's crewmen.

Finally, there is the problem the President faces here at home in terms of public outrage at the Pueblo's seizure. It is noteworthy that Mr. Johnson said nothing to inflame public feeling; he called only for "determination and unity."

A favorite Johnson expression for how to act at a moment of adversity when none of the alternatives seems very promising is to "hunker down like a jackrabbit in a hailstorm." That is what he was doing yesterday.

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Soviets Hint Interest In Freeing U.S. Ship

By Bernard D. Nossiter
Washington Post Foreign Service

NEW DELHI, Jan. 26 — Russian officials in Premier Kosygin's entourage indicated today that the Soviet Union is interested in freeing the USS Pueblo despite the negative signals Moscow has been transmitting.

Kosygin's aides hinted broadly that there is a gap between Soviet actions and Moscow's first response to American requests for help. However, they would not say whether the Russians have been directly in touch with North Korea about the seized American spy ship.

The Russians draw an analogy between the incident and one involving a Soviet fishing ship picked up by the United States in Alaskan waters last March. The Russian ship, they recall, was freed after its captain paid a fine for violating American waters.

Thus, the Russians appear to be saying that if the United States acknowledges that the Peublo was in North Korea's waters it will be released.

Premier Kosygin, who is on the second day of a week's visit to India, is staying in close touch with his capital. He has available two open telephones and teleprinters to Moscow from the Ashoka Hotel, where most of his party is staying, and from his embassy.

Last night in a brief speech, he appeared to be taking a tough line on the crisis, denouncing "international piracy" by "imperialist states."

The Soviet leader and President Tito of Yugoslavia, another visitor here, were due to meet privately together with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for the first time tonight. The Pueblo affair was said to be one of the topics for discussion.

The trio were together in public this morning but could transact no business. They watched India's gaudy Republic Day parade. Kosygin and Tito were frequently observed conducting animated chats. Both Communist leaders looked poker-faced at the indifferent marching of Indian troops, but they beamed with delight at the gaily decorated elephants in the parade.

Tito and Kosygin sipped tea together at a garden party given by India's President, Zakir Husain, this afternoon. But the milling mob surging forward to greet them made serious talk impossible.

U.S. Gets No Hint Of Suggested Solution

The Administration indicated yesterday that its own talks with Soviet officials have brought no hint or suggestion that the Pueblo and its crew might be released if the United States apologized to North Korea for trespassing.

Since U.S. statements repeatedly have declared that the Pueblo was captured while in international waters, any such apology would represent a complete turn-around.

The Russians in New Delhi apparently were referring to the American Coast Guard's seizure of two Soviet fishing boats off Alaska last March.

The first was taken March 2 within the American three-mile territorial limit. Its skipper, charged with violating American territorial waters, pleaded no contest. He was convicted in a Federal Court in Anchorage on March 6, fined $5000 and released at once to join his ship, which had not been held. The Soviet Embassy in Washington mailed a $5000 check for the fine within the two-week deadline set by the court.

The second ship was captured March 22 some five miles out, and was towed into port. Its captain was charged with violating a 12-mile fisheries limit which had gone into effect only a week earlier. Tried on March 25 at the same court, he too pleaded no contest. He was convicted and fined $10,000. He stayed in jail for the two days it took a Soviet diplomat to come from Washington with the money. Then he and his ship were released.

The diplomat said the captain, in punishment, would lose his master's license for one year and be required to repay the fine to the Soviet government.

"The U.S.S.R. government respects international law and agreements signed by the government," the diplomat said, "and it takes severe measures against those masters of our fishing fleet who violate the U.S. territorial laws."

Another Soviet trawler was boarded last Aug. 4 for intruding into Alaskan waters, and was taken into port. The Soviet government paid a $20,000 out-of-court settlement.

Enterprise Reported In S. Korea Port

SEOUL, Jan. 26 (UPI) — A reported published tonight by the newspaper Hankook Ilbo said the U.S. carrier Enterprise, last reported off North Korea, had changed course and entered the South Korean port of Pohang, about 170 miles southeast of Seoul. The newspaper quoted South Korean military sources.

There was no confirmation ported that additional U.S. submarines had been assigned to waters off Koera.

A report by the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency said the U.S. embassy and the American Ambassador's residence had been among the original targets of the Communist infiltrators Sunday, but the plan was revised shortly before the attack.

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S. Koreans Are Nervous;

U.N. Action Discounted In Seoul

By Richard Halloran
Washington Post Foreign Service

SEOUL, Jan. 26 — South Korean officials today expressed mild approval of U.S. military deployment for possible action against North Korea, but they were dubious that taking the crisis to the United Nations would accomplish anything.

A government spokesman said that President Johnson has shown "firm determination" to stop "aggressive acts of provocation." He called on North Koreans "to repent of the crimes they have already committed" and return the captured USS Pueblo and its crew before North Korea is dealt "strong reprisals."

The U.S. military moves include stationing the aircraft carrier Enterprise within striking distance of North Korea, moving two fighter squadrons from Okinawa to Korea, and calling up some U.S. reserves. South Korea reportedly is also considering a reserves callup.

On the American decision to take the conflict to the Security Council, one Korean official said, "All they do is sit around and talk." Others noted that North Korea has never recognized the competence of the United Nations to deal with any Korean problems.

Diplomatic Moves

Foreign Minister Choe Kyu Ha today called in all ambassadors, including the French dean of the diplomatic corps, to discuss Sunday's attempted assassination of President Park Chung Hee.

Choe also instructed the South Korean U.N. observer, Kim Young Shik, to deliver a letter to Secretary General U Thant setting forth the South Korean case.

The South Korean government and people are still nervous about what the United States will do if the diplomatic approach fails, as they expect. Two reports that the United States had advised Seoul of American readiness to strike North Korea if diplomacy does not succeed were firmly denied by both U.S. and South Korean officials.

In a sidelight, there was a flurry of excitement when a Korean newsman noticed an American selling furniture in preparation for leaving Seoul. Although this is an everyday occurrence here, the Koreans read it as a sign of pullout if there is a war.

United Press International

Ambassador Goldberg uses a map in stating the U.S. view in the Pueblo crisis.

No Panic

Seoul generally was calm. The nighttime curfew has been moved back to the usual midnight deadline although security precautions after midnight are extremely strict. Nervous guards with fingers on rifle triggers stopped one vehicle six times last night in less than two miles.

But this morning the skating pond in front of the Duk Soo Palace in the center of Seoul was full of children bundled in bright sweaters against Korea's clear but bitter cold winter. Night life is reviving in this usually funloving city.

On the military front, another American soldier was killed this morning near the Demilitarized Zone in a firefight with North Koreans. U.S. and South Korean troops continued to round up remnants of the 31-man team that tried to kill President Park. They have killed 24 and captured one since Sunday.

North Korea reportedly has put its entire military force into full mobilization but has not yet mobilized its 1.2 million militiamen. Korean military sources reported that North Korean Migs flew about 40 sorties near the DMZ today.

This crisis has led to some political cohesion between the governing and opposition parties, at odds since last spring's election in which both admitted to irregularities.

Government and opposition leaders have been meeting, the government is briefing the opposition on the situation, and a joint inspection team visited anti-infiltration operations headquarters and troops today.

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U.S. Insists Ship Was on High Seas

By Robert H. Estabrook
Washington Post Foreign Service

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 26—The United States appealed grimly to the Security Council today to help obtain return of the captured naval vessel Pueblo and its crew lest continued international inaction "be an invitation to catastrophe."

Using maps to demonstrate the position o. the Pueblo, U.S. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg cited monitored North Korean as well as American broadcasts which he said proved that the ship had not been in North Korean territorial waters and was not when North Korean naval units boarded it Tuesday.

The Pueblo was at least 15 nautical miles from any North Korean territory at the time of the incident, Goldberg indicated, and had standing instructions to stay at least 13 nautical miles offshore. North Korea claims territorial waters to a 12-mile limit.

No Hat Pursuit

"I want to lay to rest—completely to rest—some intimations that the Pueblo had intruded upon the territorial wawters and was sailing away from territorial waters and that the Nirth Korean units were in hot pursuit," Goldberg asserted.

"This is not the case at all," he added, referring to a map to show that the Pueblo had approached from the southeast.

Delegates sad the tense atmosphere in the Security Council was similar to that during the Cuban missile crisis, when the United States produced photographs to demonstrate the danger to members.

Soviets Blame U.S.

But the Soviet Union showed no sign here of serious concern. After criticizing the U.S. request to have the matter considered urgently and voting against adoption of the agenda, Ambassador Platon D. Morozov blamed the United States for all the tension over Korea.

The United States, he said, is motivated by a "war psychosis."

Goldberg anticipated criticisms that the Pueblo was a spy ship by asserting that Soviet communications monitoring ships are engaging in the same activities and sail much closer to foreign shores.

"One such Soviet ship right now is to be found in the Sea of Japan, and currently is not far from South Korean shores," he declared.

Cites Terrorism

In addition to presenting the urgent complaint about the Pueblo, Goldberg cited a new report by the United Nations command in South Korea noting a substantial increase in instances of terrorism and sabotage perpetrated by North Korea.

During 1967 there were 566 such incidents in which 153

See NATIONS, A11, Col. 2

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Ship Appeal Taken to U.N.

persons were killed. The incidents culminated this week in an attmept by 31 specially trained agents to assassinate President Park Chung Hee of South Korea.

The United States requested the Security Council meeting, Goldberg said at the outset, "to consider the grave threat to peace which the authorities of North Korea have brought about by their increasingly dangerous and aggressive military actions in violation of the Korean armistice agreements of 1953 and of the United Nations Charter and of international law."

The United States has stated its desire to settle the matter promptly and peacefully "and if at all possible by diplomatic means," he continued.

"The existing situation cannot be allowed to stand. It must be corrected and the Council must face up to its responsibility to see it corrected. This course is far more preferable to other remedies which the Charter reserves to member states."

The last sentence was a possible reference to unilateral military action by the United States under article 51 of the Charter covering the right of self-defense.

Goldberg referred to a broadcast by the Pueblo at noon last Tuesday, the time of the incident, saying it was stopped dead at a position 25 nautical miles from the North Korean port of Wonsan, 16.3 from the nearest point of the mainland and 15.3 from the nearest North Korean island.

An intercepted broadcast from North Korean sub chaser 35, which accosted the Pueblo, cited a position a mile farther offshore, he asserted.

He also cited broadcasts ordering North Korean vessels to make the Pueblo their target. Four surrounded the Pueblo and ordered it to heave to or face fire.

Intrusion Denied

The North Koreans knew that the Pueblo was lightly armed and "in no position to engage in a hostile, warlike act," Goldberg continued. One North Korean broadcast even referred to the vessel as unarmed, he said.

The Pueblo had come from the southeast, Goldberg said, referring to a map to show its course. He added:

"It is incontrovertible from this type of evidence, which is physical evidence of International Morse Code signals and voice reports, that the Pueblo when first approached and when seized was in international waters, well beyond the 12-mile limit, and that the North Koreans knew this."

The seizure of the ship and crew, he said, is "an act which no member of the United Nations could tolerate."

But none of this impressed Morozov, who waved aside the statistics and repeated North Korean claims that the Pueblo had come within 7.6 nautical miles of the shore. He referred to a confession allegedly broadcast by the Pueblo's captain, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher.

Goldberg Angered

This infuriated Goldberg. Referring to the "so-called confession" in reply, he said he recognized "the Soviet experience in coerced and fabricated confessions."

Morozov, however, reverted to his insistence that U.S. forces in South Korea — the remnants of the United Nations Command which repelled a North Korean invasion in 1950—are the cause of all the trouble. This is a line which the Soviet Union tried hard to press in the General Assembly last fall.

Another Communist delegate said that Morozov had had no instructions from Moscow as of noon today and that he would engage in a holding operation.

Ironically, Morozov was filling in for the newly designated Soviet permanent representative to the United Nations, Deputy Foreign Minister Jakob Malik. A walkout by Malik from the Security Council in the spring of 1950 enabled the Council to escape a Soviet veto in setting up a unified command in the Korean war with the U.S. as its agent.

What the United States can expect to gain from the discussion in the Security Council other than to dramatize the incident and bring diplomatic pressure on North Korea remains unclear.

Council President Agha Shahi of Pakistan set another Council meeting for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, but no one believes that any resolution to condemn North Korea could survive a Soviet veto. Even a resolution urging release of the Pueblo and its crew and respect for the 1953 armistice might encounter a veto. The United States has proposed no resolution so far.

But Canadian Ambassador George Ignatieff suggested the dispatch of a special U.N. representative to exercise good offices in the Korean situation. The Council should lose no time "in bringing the healing touch of diplomacy to bear," he said.

In preliminary sparring today the Soviet Union, Hungary and Algeria voted against the procedural motion to adopt the agenda. Several other delegations which voted for adoption made clear that they were not committed to support any particualr action.

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PUEBLO CAPTIVES—North Korea last night quoted the USS Pueblo skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd Bucher, as saying he and his men were in good health. Previously North Korea had distributed a photograph of Bucher "writing his confession of espionage activity" (left). His wife said it resembled him but she could not be sure. North Korea also distributed a photograph allegedly showing officers and their men after their capture (right), but did not say where the picture was taken. The Pyongyang regime also broadcast the text of an alleged interview with Bucher. Story on Page A14.

AP Wirephotos

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The United States has requested this meeting, as I stated in my letter to you, to consider the grave threat to peace which the authorities of North Korea have brought about by their increasingly dangerous and aggressive military actions in violation of the Korean armistice agreement of 1953, of the United Nations Charter, and of international law.

We have asked that the Council be convened at an hour when peace is in serious and imminent danger action is required to avert —when firm and forthwith that danger and preserve peace.

A virtually unarmed vessel of the United States Navy, sailing on the high seas, has been wantonly and lawlessly seized by armed North Korean patrol boats, and her crew forcibly detained. This warlike action carries a danger to peace which should be obvious to all.

A party of armed raiders, infiltrated from North Korea, has been intercepted in the act of invading the South Korean capital city of Seoul with the admitted assignment of assassinating the president of the Republic of Korea. This event marks the climax of a campaign by the North Korean authorities, over the past 18 months, of steadily growing infiltration, sabotage and terrorism in flagrant violation of the Korean armistice agreement.

Parallel Actions

Mr. President, these two lines of action are manifestly parallel. Both stem from North Korea. Both are completely unwarranted and unjustified. Both are aimed against peace and security in Korea. Both violate the United Nations Charter, solemn international agreements, and time-honored international law. And both pose a grave threat to peace in a country whose long search for peace and reunification in freedom has been an historic concern to the United Nations and of my country.

We bring these grave developments to the attention of the Security Council in the sincere hope that the Council will act promptly to remove the danger to international peace and security. For Mr. President, it must be removed and without delay. And it will be removed only if action is taken forthwith to secure the release of the USS Pueblo and its 83-man crew and to bring to an end the pattern of armed transgressions by North Korea against the Republic of Korea. My government has stated at the highest level our earnest desire to settle this matter promptly and peacefully and, if at all possible, by diplomatic means.

It is testimony to this desire that infidelity to the charter my government has brought this matter to the Security Council which has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, and which, together with other organs of the United Nations, has a special, an historic concern for peace and security in Korea.

Responsibility

It is imperative, therefore, that the Security Council act with the greatest urgency and decisiveness. The existing situation cannot be allowed to stand. It must be corrected and the Council must face up to its responsibility to see it corrected. This course is far more preferable to other remedies which the charter reserves to member states.

Let me now turn to the facts concerning these two aspects of North Korean aggressive conduct on which the Council's action is urgently required.

At 12 noon on January 23, Korean time, the United States Ship Pueblo manned, by a crew of six officers, 75 enlisted men, and two civilians, and sailing in international waters off the North Korean coast, was confronted by a heavily armed North Korean patrol boat identified as submarine chaser Number 35.

The strict instructions under which the Pueblo was operating required it to stay at least 13 nautical miles from the North Korean coast. While my country adheres to the three-mile rule of international law concerning territorial waters, nevertheless the ship was under orders whose effect was to stay well clear of the 12-mile limit which the North Korean authorities have by long practice followed.

The USS Pueblo reported this encounter and its location at the time in the following words—and I wish to quote exactly what was reported by radio at the time of the encounter — "USS Pueblo encountered one SO-1 class North Korean patrol craft at 0300"—that is at 12 noon Korean time—and then, I am repeating its broadcast—"position 39-25.2 NL 127-55.0 EL DIW." I might explain that DIW means "dead in water," the standard terminology meaning that all engines are stopped and the vessel was stationary.

The Map

Now, with [redacted] permission, Mr. President, I should like to refer to this map provided for the convenience of the Council and show the exact location of the Pueblo as given in these coordinates. If the members of the Council will look at the map, you will see a Number 3 blue. Number 3 blue is approximately 25 nautical miles from the port of Wonsan. It is 16.3 nautical miles from the nearest point of the North Korean mainland on the peninsula of Hodo-Pando, and 15.3 nautical miles from the island of Ung-do.

Now, at exactly the same time, the North Korean submarine chaser Number 35 which intercepted the Pueblo reported its own location in the Number 3 red—and this is a report now from the North Korean submarine chaser Number 35 monitored by us—and that location was 39 degrees 25 minutes north latitude and 127 degrees 56 minutes east longitude. You will note the positions. In other words, these two reported positions are within a mile of one another and show conclusively that according to the North Korean report, as well as our own, that the Pueblo was in international waters.

Oral Message

The report of its location by the North Korean craft, made by international morse code, was followed ten minutes later by the following oral message from the North Korean craft to its base, and I quote it: "We have approached the target here, the name of the target is GER 1-2."

Now, we talk about the Pueblo and that is the name by which the ship is, of course, known. But the technical name for this ship is GER 2 and this name was painted on the side of the ship.

The message continued, and I again quote the Korean radio message in Korean words: "Get it? GER 1-2: did you get it? So our control target is GER 1-2. I will send it again. Our control target is GER 1-2."

Inasmuch as the location of the Pueblo is of course a matter of vital importance, it is important to the Council to know that the information available to the United States as reported by our vessel to our authorities and to the North Korean authorities as reported by its vessel and transmitted by its own ship was virtually identical, with only this small margin of difference. And, interestingly enough, the North Korean ship reported the Pueblo to be about a mile farther away from the shoreline than the United States fix of its position. So you see, the North Korean broadcast, monitored, was reporting what I have stated to this Council.

Mr. President, we have numerous other reports during this encounter consistent with the location I have described. And information other than coordinates corroborative of what I have said is by voice monitor. Information on coordinates, as I said, was by international morse code.

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'Heave To'

The North Korean patrol boat, having made its approach, used international flag signals to request the Pueblo's nationality. The Pueblo, replying with the same signal system, identified herself as a United States vessel. The North Korean vessel then signalled: "Heave to or I will open fire on you." The Pueblo replied: "I am in international waters."

The reply was not challenged by the North Korean vessel, which under international law, if there had been an intrusion—which there was not—should have escorted the vessel from the area in which it was. However, that vessel then proceeded for approximately an hour to circle the Pueblo, which maintained its course and kept its distance from the shore. At that point three additional North Korean armed vessels appeared, one of which ordered the Pueblo: "Follow in my wake." As this order was issued, the four North Korean vessels closed in on the Pueblo and surrounded it. At the same time two Mig aircraft appeared overhead and circled the Pueblo. The Pueblo attempted peacefully to withdraw from this encirclement but was forcibly prevented from doing so and brought to a dead stop. It was then seized by an armed boarding party and forced into the North Korean port of Wonsan.

Now, reports from the North Korean naval vessels on their location and on their seizure of the Pueblo at this point show that the Pueblo was constantly in international waters.

At 1:50 p.m. Korean time, within a few minutes of the reported boarding of the Pueblo, North Korean vessels reported their position at 39-26 NL 128-02 EL or about 21.3 miles from the nearest North Korean land. This is the point on the map here. And we would be very glad, Mr. President, to make this map available for the records of the Security Council.

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Denies Intrusion

Now, Mr. President, I want to lay to rest—completely to rest—some intimations that the Pueblo had intruded upon the territorial waters and was sailing away from territorial waters and that the North Korean ships were in hot pursuit: This is not the case at all and I shall demonstrate it by this map.

Now, we will show by times and the course of the vessel exactly what occurred and you will see from this that the location of the Pueblo was constantly far away from Korean shores, always away from the 12-mile limit until it was taken into Wonsan by the North Korean vessels. The locations of the Pueblo are shown on the blue line and the location of the SO-1 035, the first North Korean vessel, on the red line.

Now, the Pueblo, far from having sailed from inside territorial waters to outside territorial waters, was cruising in an area—in this area—and this will be demonstrated by the time sequence—and when I say, "this area," I mean the area that is east and south of any approach to the 12-mile limit.

At 0830 Korean local time, the Pueblo was at the location I now point to on the map. It had come to that point from the southeast, not from anywhere in this vicinity. And that is point one on the map so that our record will be complete. Point two on the map shows the position of the North Korean submarine chaser number 35 as reported by her at 10:55, and you will see that she is close to—the North Korean vessel, not the Pueblo — the 12-mile limit.

Point number three is the position reported by the Pueblo at 12 o'clock noon and you will see that she is a considerable distance from the 12-mile limit, which is the dotted line.

Red point number three is the position reported by the North Korean submarine chaser number 35 at 12 o'clock noon, when it signalled the Pueblo to stop. In other words, this is the position of the North Korean vessel, this is the position of the Pueblo; and the position of the North Korean vessel that I point to, the red line, the position audibly by the North Korean vessel. There is very little difference in these two reports.

Point number four is the position reported by the North Korean vessel at 13:50, 1:50 p.m., when she reported boarding the Pueblo. And you will recall that I just told the Council that the Pueblo, seeking to escape the encirclement, did not move in the direction which would have transgressed the 12-mile limit.

Now, all of this is verified not by reports solely from the Pueblo; all of this is verified by reports from the North Korean vessels which were monitored and I think it is a very clear picture of exactly what transpired.

Here, too, Mr. President, with your permission, we will make this available.

North Koreans' Intent

Mr. President, it is incontrovertible from this type of evidence, which is physical evidence of International Morse Code signals and voice reports, that the Pueblo when first approached and when seized, was international waters, well beyond the 12-mile limit; and that the North Koreans knew this.

Further compounding this offense against international law, and the gravity of this warlike act, is the fact that the North Koreans clearly intended to capture the Pueblo, knowing that it was in international waters, and force it to sail into the port of Wonsan. This aim is made clear by messages exchanged among the North Korean vessels themselves which we monitored, including the following: "By talking this way, it will be enough to understand according to present instructions we will close down the radio, tie up the personnel, tow it and enter port at Wonsan. At present we are on our way to boarding. We are coming in." This is an EACT voice broadcast from the ship which acknowledges the instructions that it was following.

Now, Mr. President, in light of this, this was no mere incident, no case of mistaken identity, no case of mistaken location. It was nothing less than a deliberate, premeditated, armed attack on a United States naval vessel on the high seas, an attack whose gravity is underlined by these simple facts which I should now like to sum up.

The location of the Pueblo in international waters was fully known to the North Korean authorities since the broadcasts were not only between its own ships but were directed to its shore installations.

The Pueblo was so lightly armed that the North Koreans in one of the conversations which we have monitored even reported it as unarmed.

The Pueblo was therefore in no position to engage in a hostile, warlike act towards the territory or vessels of North Korea; and the North Koreans knew this.

Nevertheless, the Pueblo, clearly on the high seas, was forcibly stopped, boarded and seized by North Korean armed vessels. This is a knowing and willful aggressive act—part of a deliberate series of actions in contravention of international law and of solemn international arrangements designed to keep peace in the area, which apply not only to land forces but to naval forces as well. It is an action which no member of the United Nations could tolerate.

I might add, in light of the comments of the distinguished Soviet representative on the adoption of the agenda, that Soviet ships engaged in exactly the same activities as the Pueblo sail much closer to the shores of other states. And one such Soviet ship right now is to be found in the Sea of Japan, and currently is not far from South Korean shores.

Turns to Infiltration

I turn now to the other grave category of aggressive actions taken by the North Korean authorities: Their systematic campaign of infiltration, sabotage and terrorism across the armistice demarcation line, in gross violation of the armistice agreement—not only in the vicinity of the Demilitarized Zone but also in many cases deep in the territory of the Republic of Korea — culminating in the recent raid against the capital city of Seoul, the Presidential Palace and the person of the President of the Republic.

The gravity of this campaign has already been made known to the Security Council. Last Nov.2 I conveyed to the Council a report from the United Nations Command in Korea, summing up the evidence of a drastic increase in violations by North Korea of the Korean armistice agreement and subsequent agreement pertaining therto. This report, Security Council Document S/8217 noted that the number of incidents involving armed infiltrators from North Korea had increased from 50 in 1966 to 543 in the first ten months of 1967; and that the number of soldiers and civilians killed by these infiltrators had increased frome 35 in 1966 to 144 in the same period of 1967. The further report of the United Nations Command for the whole year 1967, filed today, shows a total of 566 incidents for 1967 and a total of 153 individuals killed by the North Korean infiltrators. The United Nations Command in its report has further pointed out that, although North Korea had refused all requests by the United Nations Commandin for investigation of these incidents by joint observer teams pursuant to the armistice agreement, the evidence that the attacks had been mounted from North Korea is incontestable. This evidence is subject to verification by these reports, which are on file with the Security Council.

The terrorist campaign, Mr. President, has now reached a new level of outrage. Last Sunday, Jan. 21, security forces of the Republic of Korea made contact with a group of some 30 armed North Koreans near the Presidential Palace in Seoul. In a series of engagements, both in Seoul and between Seoul and the Demilitarized Zone, lasting through Jan. 24, about half of this group were killed and two captured. It has now been ascertained that the infiltration team totaled 31 agents, all with the rank of lieutenant or higher, dispatched from the 124th North Korean Army unit; that these agents had received two years' training including two weeks of training for the present mission, in special camps established in North Korea for this purpose; and that their assigned mission included the assassination of the president of the Republic of Korea.

I might add, Mr. President, that the North Korean authorities make no secret of the political strategy and motivation behind these attacks. Their daily propaganda vilifies the government of the Republic of Korea and denies its very right to exist. Yet, Mr. President, this same government of the Republic of Korea is recognized by 77 governments, is a member of numerous specialized agencies of the United Nations and enjoys observer status at the United Nations Headquarters.

Increase in Tempo Seen

Mr. President, it is obvious that this long series of attacks by North Korean infiltrators across the Demilitarized Zone — and by other groups of North Korean armed personnel which, traveled by sea, have penetrated into even the southern portions of South Korea — has steadily increased in its tempo and its scope — until it threatens to undermine the whole structure of the armistice regime, under which peace has been preserved in a divided Korea for 14 years.

In the interest of international peace and security, this deterioration cannot be allowed to continue. It must be reversed promptly. The armistice agreements must be restored to their full vigor, and the weight of the influence of the Security Council must be exerted to this vitally important end.

Mr. President, these are the facts of the threat to peace created by North Korea's aggressive actions on sea and land. With all earnestness I ask the Security Council to act firmly and swiftly to rectify this dangerous situation and eliminate this threat to peace. Despite the most serious provocation — a provocation which every nation would recognize as serious and dangerous—my government is exercising great restraint in this matter. We seek to give the processes of peaceful action all possible scope. We believe those processes can work swiftly and effectively, if the international community — including the members of this Council, individually and collectively, so will it.

But, Mr. President, these peaceful processes must work. The present situation is not acceptable and it cannot be left to drift. This great and potent organization of peace must not let the cause of peace in Korea be lost by default to the high-handed tactics of a lawless regime. Such a course would be an invitation to catastrophe.

Therefore, let the Security Council, with its great influence, promptly and effectively help to secure forthwith the safe return of the Pueblo and her crew, and to restore to full vigor and effectiveness the Korean armistice agreement.

Fellow members of the Security Council, we have a clear and urgent responsibility under the Charter to help keep the peace. I trust the Council will discharge this responsibility.

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A SOVIET TRAWLER TRAILS ENTERPRISE

Intelligence Ship Sailing in Midst of Carrier's Task Force Off South Korea

By United Press International

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26—Defense Department officials said tonight that a Soviet intelligence-gathering vessel was shadowing the nuclear aircraft carrier Enterprise off the coast of South Korea.

The Soviet vessel, identified as the Gidrolog, was said to be sailing in the midst of the Enterprise's task force, which includes a guided-missile ship and several destroyers.

The trawler is on essentially the same sort of mission as the Pueblo was engaged in when she was seized by the North Koreans on Tuesday, the officials said.

The Enterprise was sent to the Sea of Japan off Korea in a show of force in response to the seizing of the Pueblo and the 83 men on board.

Another Soviet Ship in Area

The United States is doing nothing about the trawler's presence, the officials said, because she is in international waters. In the past, the United States has largely ignored the activity of such trawlers, even when they got inside United States ship formations during maneuvers.

The officials cited the trawler as an example of how commonplace such seaborne espionage was. [The Pentagon declined comment on the report that a Soviet ship was trailing the Enterprise, Reuters reported.]

Meanwhile, at the United Nations, Arthur J. Goldberg, the United States delegate, charged that another Soviet intelligence ship "right now is to be found in the Sea of Japan, not far from South Korean shores."

The officials said the seizure of the Pueblo was not due to error in judgment on the part of the skipper, Comdr. Lloyd M. Bucher.

They said the decision of United States military com-

manders not to come to the Pueblo's aid was not because of a lack of American military strength in the area.

Rather they cited four facts:

¶American military officials in the area were not immediately sure of just what had occurred, whether the incident was a deliberate act by the North Koreans, a mistake or the unauthorized act of a local commander.

¶The weather was bad for dispatching aircraft to the area. There were snow flurries and a relatively low ceiling.

¶Only three to four hours of daylight were left at the time Commander Bucher radioed his first request for assistance. He did this when his ship was actually boarded, the officials said, an hour and 45 minutes after first being confronted by North Korean forces.

¶Military commanders had to assume the attack might have been planned and in that case, the North Koreans would also have planned to have reinforcements available.

Because of these factors, the Defense officials said, the commanders in the Pacific area decided against immediately dispatching aircraft to the scene.

The officials said American intelligence-gathering ships, such as the Pueblo, were commonly followed or harassed by ships of Communist nations.

They said that, if the United States wanted to, it could pick up "15 to 20" Soviet intelligence trawlers that operate off the American coast.

Confession Called 'Phony'

BOYSTOWN, Neb., Saturday, Jan. 27, (UPI)—The head of Boys Town yesterday compared the handwriting of Commander Lloyd Bucher with a copy of the "confession" North Korea asserts he wrote and called the "confession" a "lousy, phony thing." The document was transmitted by press agenciese.

Msgr. Nicholas H. Wegner, director of Boys Town, examined the records and letters of the commander, who had studied there.

"This is not his handwriting at all," Monsignor Wegner said.

U.S. Again Requests Soviet Intercession

By RAYMOND H. ANDERSON
Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, Jan. 26 — Llewellyn E. Thompson, the United States Ambassador, made another trip today to the Soviet Foreign Ministry to seek Soviet intercession in the crisis over North Korea's seizure of the American intelligence ship Pueblo.

The visit came amid indications that the Soviet Government had not yet made a final decision whether to approach the North Korean Government. Moscow rebuffed the first request by Washington for assistance.

Early today, an official of the Soviet Foreign Ministry declared at a diplomatic reception that Moscow would never consent to act as a mediator in the dispute between the United States and North Korea. A few hours later, another official was reported to have challenged this statement.

By the end of the day, the Foreign Ministry's press department limited its comment on the affair to a remark that it did not know what the Soviet Government planned to do.

It is not clear here how much influence Moscow would be able to assert in North Korea even if it should desire to intervene. The North Koreans have proclaimed a policy of independent communism, shunning the guidance both of the Russians and their Chinese rivals.

President Johnson's call-up yesterday of 14,787 Air Force and Navy reservists to active duty is assumed to have given the Soviet leadership cause for serious examination of the possibilities of involvement in a new conflict in Korea.

The Soviet Union is bound by a defense treaty signed in 1961 to give military assistance "with all forces and by every means" if North Korea should come under threat of attack.

The Soviet press has not yet mentioned Washington's overtures to Moscow for intercession with North Korea. It is believed that the publicity given to the United States' approaches is embarrassing to the Russians on the ground that it makes them vulnerable to Chinese Communist accusations of collaboration with the "imperialists."

Newspaper accounts of the Pueblo incident depict the United States as the villain.

Izvestia, the Soviet Government newspaper, asserted tonight that President Johnson was using the Pueblo incident as a pretext to call up military reserves for the Vietnam war.

In a dispatch from Washington headlined "They Are Stirring Up Hysteria," the newspaper declared:

"It is well known that, for a long time, Johnson has been faced with the temptation to call up reserves. The Pentagon has been having trouble finding the new tens of thousands of soldiers to send to the jungles.

"The generals have been pressing the President for a long time to take this step, but he was reluctant because of the obvious political unpopularity of the call up of reserves.

"The incident with the Pueblo gave the White House a good justification."

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SENATORS ASSAIL POLICY ON PUEBLO

Mundt Charges 'Bungling'—Rusk Is Said to Promise Review of Spy Ship Use

By JOHN W. FINNEY

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 — The Administration ran into criticism and charges of "bungling" today in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for permitting the intelligence ship Pueblo to operate off the North Korean coast at a time of political tension in the Far East.

As a result of the criticism, Secretary of State Dean Rusk was reported to have given assurances that the Administration would reconsider its policies governing the operation of electronic spy ships off the shores of Communist nations.

Meanwhile, in New York, Senator Jacob K. Javits called for Congress to conduct an inquiry into the Pueblo incident and other foreign policy issues.

Mr. Rusk, who appeared before the committee in executive session for a secret briefing on the Pueblo incident, obtained the unanimous support of the committee members for the Administration's diplomatic efforts to obtain from North Korea release of the Pueblo and her crew.

The committee members were reported to have stressed that the Administration should not rush into any military action.

Committee Is Critical

But when Mr. Rusk asked for committee advice on how to handle the incident, he was reported to have received instead criticism of the Administration for permitting the incident to develop.

The sharpest criticism was reported to have come from Senator Karl E. Mundt, Republican of South Dakota, who is normally one of the more militant conservatives on the committee.

In response to the Rusk request for advice, Senator Mundt was understood to have complained that the Administration had "bungled very badly" in permitting the Pueblo to operate off the North Korean coast.

Senator Mundt was reliably reported to have told Mr. Rusk that "we should not be running spy ships into controversial areas in a provocative manner unless it is highly important that we get information that is not otherwise available."

If such missions are absolute-

Continued From Page 1, Col. 5

ly necessary, Senator Mundt was understood to have suggested, the ships should not be sent into such sensitive areas unless protected by air cover or by "naval power over the horizon."

Similar criticism, in somewhat less blunt terms, was understood to have come from other committee members, such as Senator Frank J. Lausche, Democrat of Ohio, and Senator Stuart Symington, Democrat of Missouri.

In response to the criticism, Mr. Rusk was reported to have told the committee members that the Administration "might have to rethink" its past policies on the operations of intelligence ships and take steps to see that such incidents as the seizure of the Pueblo did not recur.

'Uneasy Truce'

From the criticism, it was apparent the Pueblo incident was having the significant political effect of producing a coalescing of views between liberals and conservatives on the committee, between critics and supporters of the Administration's Vietnam policy.

Their new common ground is a desire for a Congressional restraint on the foreign policy commitments undertaken by the Administration and a concern that as a result of Vietnam the nation is in danger of becoming militarily and politically overextended.

The latter concern was reflected in the comments of Senator Mundt, who in the past has been a supporter of the Administration's Vietnam policy. Mr. Mundt was understood to have advised Mr. Rusk that the Administration should not undertake such intelligence patrols "in a period of uneasy truce, when you already have more war on your hands than you can handle and when you shouldn't be looking for more."

After the Rusk briefing, some committee members privately expressed some doubts that high authorities in the executive branch and the military were aware of the mission of the Pueblo.

The effect of the Pueblo incident, in the opinion of some committee members, will therefore be to reinforce a move within the committee to investigate the Administration's handling of the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin incidents, in which two American destroyers were reported to have come under attack by North Vietnamese PT boats.

The Rusk briefing was understood to have put to rest the suspicions of some committee members that before the seizure, the Pueblo might have intruded into North Korean territorial waters, as has been charged by North Korea.

Territorial Waters

Asked by reporters after the hearing whether the Pueblo had at any time entered North Korean territorial waters before her seizure, Mr. Rusk replied:

"We have no information whatever pointing in that direction. The ship was in international waters at all stages, according to every indication we have. And there are indications that the other side also knew that."

When pressed on this point within the committee, Mr. Rusk was said to have explained that he could not be categorical because the Pueblo, until the time of her seizure, was maintaining radio silence and was not reporting her position. But he was said to have emphasized that the ship was under strict orders not to come any closer than 13 miles from the North Korean shore. North Korea claims a 12-mile territorial sea.

Percy Calls for Caution

Special to The New York Times

NEWARK, Jan. 26—Senator Charles H. Percy of Illinois supported tonight President Johnson's effort to exhaust diplomatic negotiations before other courses are taken to rescue the Pueblo.

Senator Percy, a Republican, said at a news conference here that "I agree with the President that every diplomatic move must be taken to rectify the atrocity that has been committed. But this is a time to keep cool heads and be very cautious in what we say and do. We must take into account that what we have at stake here is 85 lives. How many lives might be lost if we go in and seize an empty ship?"

The Senator came here to address a dinner given by the 200 Club, a group of Newark businessmen who organized more than a year ago to provide financial help to widows and survivors of law enforcement officers and firemen who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Case Backs President

Senator Clifford P. Case, Republican of New Jersey, said yesterday he supported President Johnson's efforts in attempting to recover the intelligence ship Pueblo.

"This is a very serious situation," he said. "It was an outrageous action."

He spoke to the Columbia University Law Alumni Association at the Commodore Hotel.

Warning by North Reported

TOKYO, Jan. 26 (Reuters)—Sankei Shimbun reported today that North Korea had warned it might take action against the Pueblo two weeks before the vessel was seized.

The newspaper's Washington correspondent, Yoneo Sakai, said the paper of the North Korean Labor (Communist) party said on Jan. 9 that the Government would take action if the Pueblo continued its intelligence activities for more than two weeks.

Quoting informed sources, the correspondent said Washington had directed Adm. Ulysses S. Grant Sharp, Commander in Chief, Pacific, to be prudent, but that the directive for some reason failed to reach the Pueblo.

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Some U.S. Codes Altered Since Loss Of Intelligence Ship

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 — Some code changes have been made as a general precaution by the United States Navy and other Government agencies since the intelligence ship Pueblo was seized by North Korea Tuesday, American officials said today.

But the officials said that even without these changes there would have been no risk to other secret messages.

The codes used by the Pueblo and other American ships in communication with their command points are unique, the officials said, so the capture of one vessel would not provide the key to other codes.

A security breach of another sort might have occurred, however. If any of the Pueblo's code machines was captured intact, examination by experts would give the Communists information about American communications techniques.

It would not allow the breaking of a code, but it could reveal how some of the complex devices work.

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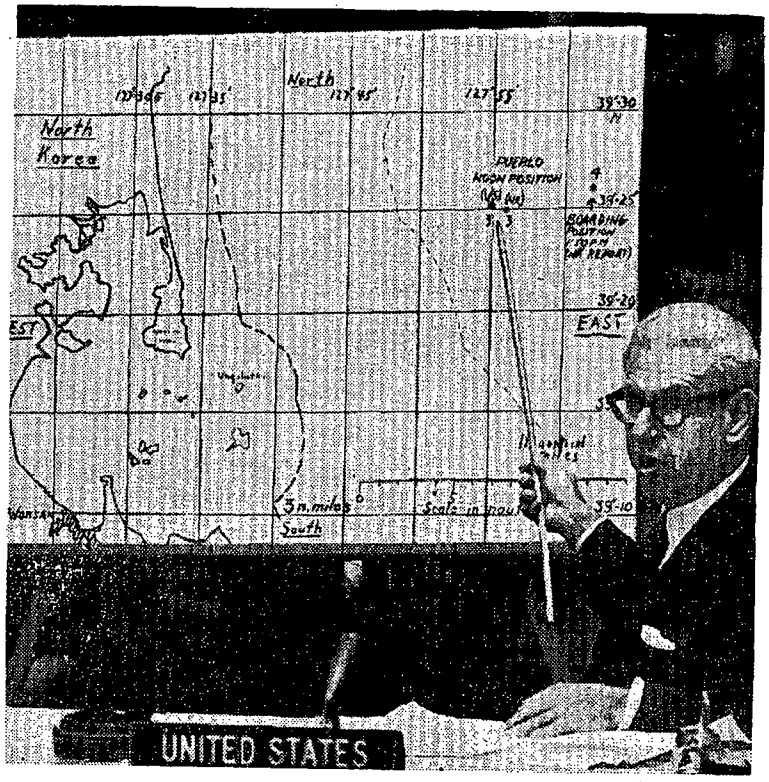
U.S. ASKS U.N. TO OBTAIN RELEASE OF SHIP AND CREW HELD IN KOREA; JOHNSON, ON TV, TAKES GRAVE VIEW



The New York Times

SPEAKS FOR THE U.S.: Arthur J. Goldberg uses a map at the United Nations as he presents case against North Korea. It shows Pueblo's positions before and during seizure.

By DREW MIDDLETON
Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Jan. 26—The United States appealed to the Security Council today to obtain the safe return of the American intelligence ship Pueblo and her crew from North Korea and to restore the Korean armistice agreements to full effectiveness.

Arthur J. Goldberg, the United States representative, told the Council that the seizure of the Pueblo by North Korean patrol boats last Tuesday was "no case of mistaken identity, no case of mistaken location," but "a deliberate premeditated armed attack on a United States vessel on the high seas."

Mr. Goldberg buttressed his assertions that the Pueblo had never been inside Korean territorial waters by citing messages transmitted by the North Korean vessels. These, Mr. Goldberg asserted, indicated that both the American ship and its captors had been outside the 12-mile limit that North Korea enforces.

Long Speech by Russian

The opening meeting of what is expected to be a stormy debate was dominated by Mr. Goldberg and Platon D. Morozov of the Soviet Union.

Mr. Morozov, who unsuccessfully contested the inscription of the issue on the Council's agenda, answered Mr. Goldberg with a long speech in which he scoffed at the American arguments and dismissed as worthless the chart and map that the American spokesman had introduced to trace the course of the encounter off North Korea.

Mr. Morozov told the Council he preferred the evidence provided by a purported confession by Comdr. Lloyd Bucher of the Pueblo that was broadcast over the North Korean radio last night.

Mr. Goldberg replied that this was natural in view of the Soviet experience with "fabricated confessions."

He also charged that a Soviet intelligence ship "right now is to be found in the Sea of Japan, not far from South Korean shores." Defense officials in

Continued on Page 5, Column 2

Continued From Page 1, Col. 8

Washington said tonight that one such ship was in the midst of the task force that included the nuclear carrier Entreprise off South Korea. But a member of the United States Mission at the United Nations said Mr. Goldberg had been referring to another Soviet ship.

Today's council meeting, which Agha Shahi of Pakistan as this month's President convened at 4:23 P.M., recessed at 6:43. He said the Council would meet again at 10:30 A.M. tomorrow.

The attitude taken in today's proceedings by the Soviet delegate, Karoly Csatorday of Hungary and Tewfik Bouattoura of Algeria indicated strong opposition to any effective action by the Council.

These three diplomats voted against inscription of the issue on the Council's agenda, but the twelve other members voted in favor. One, Armand Barard of France, quickly explained that his favorable vote did not reflect any stand on the substance of the issue.

Mr. Goldberg prefaced his case with a warning that the Council must act with "the greatest urgency and decisiveness" because "the existing situation cannot be allowed to stand."

The Council, he said, must accept its responsibility to correct the situation and this, he added, would be preferable to "other remedies" that the Charter reserves to member states.

This was interpreted by some diplomats as an allusion to Article 51, which says that nothing in the Charter "shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defense if an armed attack occurs against a member of the United Nations until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security."

Mr. Goldberg included in his speech a sharp attack on North Korean infiltration into South Korea and described the general deterioration of the situation in the peninsula. This "deterioration cannot be allowed to continue," he declared.

But the main focus of his remarks was that the Pueblo had been captured in international waters and not within North Korean territorial waters as North Korea contends.

The Pueblo's own report

cont'd.

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NEW YORK TIMES

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showed that she was 16.3 nautical miles from the nearest point of the North Korean mainland, or 4.3 miles outside of what the North Koreans consider as their territorial waters.

A major point in the case presented by Mr. Goldberg was that a report from the North Korean patrol boat No. 35, which intercepted the Pueblo, showed that her position was within a mile of the American ship at the time. The North Korean report had been monitored by the United States.

Another North Korean report, also intercepted by the Americans, also placed the Pueblo and her interceptor outside the limits of North Korean waters, Mr. Goldberg declared.

But the North Korean report, he went on, put the Pueblo about one mile further away from the North Korean shoreline than the United States fix did.

Mr. Goldberg used a chart and a map of the area of the encounter off the port of Wonsan to illustrate his points and to answer the argument that the Pueblo had invaded territorial waters and was sailing away with the North Korean ships in hot pursuit.

The two reported positions, Mr. Goldberg emphasized, "show conclusively that, according to the North Korean report as well as our own," the Pueblo was in international waters.

Soviet Practice Noted

Mr. Goldberg said that Sovie ships "engage in exactly th same activities as the Pueblo and sail much closer to the shores of other states." It was in this connection that he said one such vessel was now in the Sea of Japan not far from South Korean waters.

Turning to North Korean actions on land, Mr. Goldberg cited reports from the United Nations Command showing tha the number of infiltrators into South Korea increased from 50 in 1966 to 543 in the first 10 months of 1967. The number of soldiers and civilians killed by these infiltrators, he added, rose from 35 in 1966 to 144 in the first 10 months of 1967.

These attacks and the recent North Korean attempt to assassinate President Chung Hee Park of South Korea, Mr. Goldberg said, threaten to undermine the armistice arrangements that have kept the peace in Korea for 14 years.

Mr. Morozov spoke for the Soviet Union because Nikolai T. Fedorenko, the retiring chief representative, left for Moscow this week and his successor, Jacob Malik, has not yet arrived.

PEKING SAYS PUEBLO PUT UP RESISTANCE

TOKYO, Jan. 26 (AP)—Official broadcasts from Peking said today that the Pueblo had "put up an arrogant resistance" before she was captured by North Korean patrol craft. The broadcasts, breaking a four-day silence, echoed North Korean charges that the intelligence ship had intruded into North Korean territorial waters. This has been denied by the United States.

Hsinhua, the official Chinese press agency, and the broadcasts in Japanese cited reports distributed earlier by North Korea's official press agency.

Hsinhua said the Pueblo had "intruded deep into the coastal waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, put up an arrogant resistance and the naval ships of the Korean People's Army returned fire and killed or wounded several United States imperialist aggressor troops."

Gavin 'Appalled' on Pueblo

HANOVER, N. H., Jan. 26 (UPI)—Lieut. Gen. James H. Gavin, retired, an opponent of the United States policy in Vietnam, said today he was "appalled" that a captured United States intelligence ship had no air cover. He advocated force if necessary to get the Pueblo back.

Reagan Sees Chance Lost

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 26 (UPI)—Gov. Ronald Reagan of California said today the United States had lost its chance for "immediate and decisive action" in the seizure of the Pueblo by North Korea. He said that some strong step must still be taken because "the man in uniform is entitled to know his country is behind him."

Red Cross Makes Inquiries

Special to The New York Times

GENEVA, Jan. 26—The International Committee of the Red Cross said tonight it was making inquiries of the North Korea Red Cross concerning the crew of the Pueblo.

'Imperialists' Accused

Special to The New York Times

TOKYO, Jan. 26—North Korea warned today that if the "American imperialists take more high-handed measures" North Korea will be ready to adopt decisive counter-measures against them.

The warning was in an editorial of Rodong Shinmoon, of the North Korean Labor party, distributed by the North Korean press agency and monitored here.

The editorial said that the Peublo's infringement was "an unpardonable act of aggression violating the sacred sovereignty of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and an act for provoking a war."

NY Times

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U.S. 'CRISIS CENTER' KEEPS DAILY VIGIL

State Department Post Has 'Dr. Strangelove' Aspects

By NAN ROBERTSON

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26—At first glance, it looks like the Walter Cronkite newsroom millions of Americans see on television every night.

There are Teletype machines, maps, wall clocks giving the times around the world, multicolor phones, shirt-sleeved assistants and tables piled with printed messages.

This is the State Department's closely guarded Operations Center—really a "crisis center." The seventh-floor command post jumped yesterday in the wake of the seizure of the American intelligence vessel Pueblo by North Korea on Tuesday.

In it works, 24 hours a day, a series of five-man teams. The center was set up in April, 1961 after the Cuban Bay of Pigs debacle. It is electronically hooked up with the Pentagon's National Military Command Center, commonly called "the tank"; and the White House's "Situation Room."

On a normal day, more than 300 messages, all of them urgent, flow into the State Department center. During the Arab-Israeli war last June, the number went up to 1,000 daily.

Wall Screens and Phones

The night senior watch officer must decide whether to wake the President or the Secretary of State if a crisis develops.

The last year has been particularly hectic, according to the center's deputy director, James E. Ralph. He ticked off the upheavals in Greece, Yemen, the Middle East, the Congo, Nigeria, Vietnam and Cyprus and the international financial turmoil set off by the devaluation of the British pound.

The "Dr. Strangelove" aspects of the Operations Center tend to dispel the first impression of a TV newsroom. There is the small, soundproofed "Telecon Room," where Secretary of State Dean Rusk and other Cabinet officers "talk" to American outposts via wall screens that instantly flash incoming and outgoing questions and answers.

There are Teletype machines that encode and decode the top-secret messages transmitted through them.

There is the white phone, which rings at the White House Situation Room as soon as the man at State picks it up. Alongside are the gold phone for the Pentagon and the powder-blue phone for the Operations Center at the Central Intelligence Agency.

The center performs two other important functions on top of its receiving and alerting duties. One is to put out top-secret digests twice a day (the morning summary is blue-bordered, the evening one brown-bordered) of key incoming cables.

Another function is what Mr. Ralph describes as "crisis management." When serious trouble breaks out anywhere, the Operations Center brings in a special task force of State Department specialists in that geographical area.

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Limitations of Power

U.S. Officials Confess to Frustration Over How to Recover Pueblo and Crew

By PETER GROSE
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26—To all appearances, the Communist regime of North Korea has exposed both the vulnerability and the limitations of the vast power of the United States.

American diplomats confess a sense of frustration and despair about what can be done to recover the intelligence-gathering ship Pueblo and her crew of 83. As in dealings with North Vietnam, the problem is not so much finding channels of diplomatic contact as what to say through those channels.

News Analysis

What serious inducement can the United States offer to bring about concessions from the North Korean Government except the threat of something so violent as to make the situation far worse than it is already? This question is very much alive in official Washington today.

For the present, the Johnson Administration is basing its demands for the return of the ship and its crew on strictly legal grounds, both in its public and private channels of communication.

Insistence by Rusk

There is no wavering from the firm statement that the Pueblo was in international waters at the time she was seized. Secretary of State Dean Rusk insisted that "at all stages" the vessel remained more than 12 miles from the coastline, according to the signals received in Washington.

It was noted, however, that during her cruise, there were periods of radio silence from the Pueblo. This left open the possibility that the ship had previously, and silently, moved closer to the Korean coast for better soundings.

In any case, officials here recognize that the North Korean Government and other interested Communist regimes are not likely to take Washington's word on this delicate point and surrender to international law. So what next?

The military options drawn up by the Pentagon immediately after the ship was seized Tuesday seem increasingly impractical.

A bold commando sweep into Wonsan harbor to recover the ship might conceivably succeed. But, it was thought, it would only endanger the American crewmen held, in effect, as hostages.

Officials believe the 83 Americans have already been dispersed to various prisons and hospitals. Four of them have been reported wounded.

Similarly, it is expected some punitive act, an air or sea raid against some North Korean installations — would also fail to free the Americans.

The Administration apparently has no desire to attempt any ground action or raise the level of tension along the military demarcation line separating North and South Korea. Even if there were a reason to think that something could be gained by this means — and there is none — a second front of combat in Asia is not an attractive prospect.

Moreover, heightened tension in Korea might well force the withdrawal of nearly 50,000 South Korean troops now fighting alongside the United States and other allies in South Vietnam.

A counterseizure of some North Korean patrol boats is regarded as a dubious undertaking.

There appears to be a similar paucity of political options. The mere fact that there are no exchanges between the United States and North Korea—trade, cultural, technical — raises a good argument for the desirability of such exchanges even with hostile countries. As it stands, there is nothing that can be cut off.

Payment of compensation, ransom for 83 American lives, would be distasteful, but not new. Premier Fidel Castro of Cuba accepted tractors and drugs in return for the release of prisoners after the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961.

Initially, the Johnson Administration is basing a slim hope on the United Nations, perhaps a Security Council request to Secretary General Thant for his personal intervention.

But to North Korea, the United Nations is something less than a neutral agent. It was under the United Nations flag that American and other troops fought in the Korean war 15 years ago, and that blue and white insignia still flies on the Southern side of the armistice line.

The United States has also asked the International Red Cross to arrange the release of the prisoners. This organization had some success after the armistice of 1953, but then there were North Korean prisoners to offer in exchange for the Americans.

An obscure international body, left over from the armistice agreement, might be reactivated now. It is called the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, composed of Sweden, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and Poland, and it has the singular distinction of being recognized by both the North Koreans and the United States.

This commission has been moribund since the early post-armistice days when it was required to supervise troop withdrawals to the armistice lines.

These political options are likely to be pressed in the days to come through third countries that maintain embassies in Pyongyang, the North Korean capital.

United States officials refuse to discuss which countries are being asked to play a role, but obvious candidates are Indonesia, Yugoslavia, Rumania or, perhaps, India or Ceylon, which have consular relations with the North Koreans.

A Blunder on Soviet

Only one channel has been publicly identified—a request for Soviet good offices—and some officials concede that the Johnson administration blundered in disclosing the approach to Moscow.

Secretly, the Russians might have been able to help, it is believed. Publicly, their stance has to be one of complete solidarity with another Communist regime.

The one direct contact between an official United States representative and a North Korean officer, at a meeting of the Military Armistice Commission in Panmunjon Wednesday, brought such a vehement North Korean response that officials look for no progress through that channel.

Through whatever channel it is arranged, it may be that only some kind of apology and public surrender of the Pueblo will succeed in obtaining release of the prisoners. This is not a nice prospect for the Johnson Administration in an election year, but observers think it might have to be that or nothing.

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Saturday N.Y. Times

TV SHOWS CURTAILED FOR PUEBLO REPORTS

The crisis over the seizure of the intelligence ship Pueblo interrupted some television schedules yesterday, first for the brief comment by President Johnson and then for the meeting of the United Nations Security Council.

At the United Nations, Arthur J. Goldberg's recourse to maps and his reports of radio messages among North Korean naval units lent a dramatic touch underlining the gravity of the incident.

The National Broadcasting Company and the Columbia Broadcasting System carried all of the United States representative's speech and the essence of the rebuttal by Platon Morozov, alternate representative of the Soviet Union. The American Broadcasting Company reported Mr. Goldberg's remarks and then reverted to the scheduled programing. WNYC and WNDT, the noncommercial outlets, provided gavel-to-gavel coverage.

C.BS. canceled last night's installment of "Gomer Pyle," the half-hour situation comedy, to give a prime-time summary of the day's developments.

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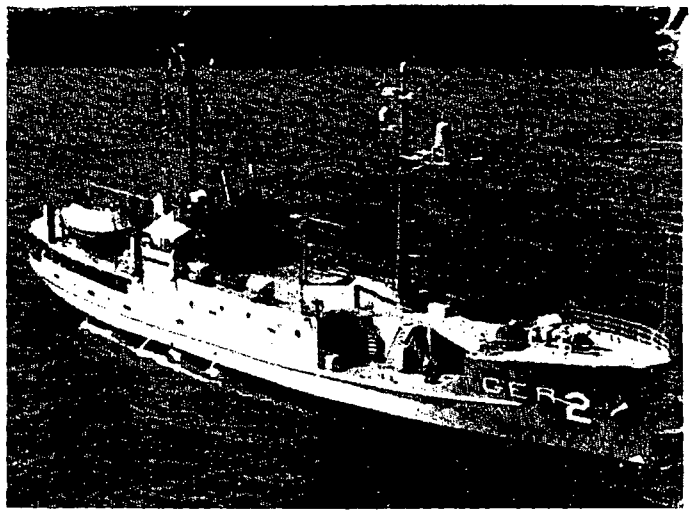

U. S. spy network loses a link

With a show of naval force and diplomatic maneuvers, the U. S. government at midweek was trying to retrieve the auxiliary intelligence ship Pueblo (picture), which the Communist North Koreans had seized.

The Pueblo is part of a recently intensified effort by U. S. intelligence agencies to keep a worldwide watch on all electronic activity. The ship was built originally to serve the army as a light cargo vessel in 1944. In 1966, however, the Pueblo (then called the AKL-44) was converted in Bremerton, Wash., to a Navy intelligence collection ship.

It had been on patrol off North Korea for only 10 days when it was intercepted; its assignment to the area undoubtedly had a direct relationship to reports of troop movements and the increased infiltration of North Korean terrorists into South Korea.

Network. Both the equipment on the Pueblo and its crew represent an important link in the U. S. electronic spy system. There are seven other known intelligence-gathering ships operating in this global network, which also includes aircraft "ferrets," drones, Samos satellites, and radar of all types.

The Pueblo is known to have carried advanced radar equipment that could bounce signals off the troposphere, which means it could monitor aircraft movements in North Korea as well as air-to-air and air-to-ground communications there. It also probably was trailing hydrophones to pick up electronic "signatures" of other ships moving in the area.

This instrumentation is of crucial importance to U. S. security, and it is probably more advanced than anything possessed by the Communists. There is also a great deal of mystery surrounding the fate of the Pueblo's crew.

Speculation. Similar ships have cryptologists and translators as well as highly trained intercept-and-sending operators on board. The two civilians aboard when the Pueblo was captured probably were National Security Agency personnel, Washington sources says. NSA developed and perfected most of the electronic equipment on the Pueblo and since the reoutfitted ship has only been commissioned eight months, it would not be unusual for two NSA men still to be aboard.

At midweek, Senator Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.), chairman of the Armed Services Commitee, said that it was clear that the classified equipment on the Pueblo had been destroyed before the capture. Destruct drills are a key part of the training of any electronic intelligence ship's crew.

The loss of the ship, though, was a blow. The increasing North Korean guerrilla activity was disturbing to the Pentagon long before the capture of the Pueblo. It meant one less monitoring platform to keep track of activities north of the 38th parallel.

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Soviets Hint POW Trade For Pueblo

By Bernard D. Nossiter
Washington Post Foreign Service

NEW DELHI, Jan. 27—The Pueblo and its crew could be freed in exchange for captured North Koreans and some form of acknowledgement that the spy ship was in North Korean waters.

This was the gist of suggestions relayed here today by well-placed Russian sources. These sources are in a particularly good position to speak since Soviet Premier Kosygin is in the midst of a state visit here.

The Russian aides have been careful to spell out nothing explicitly. However, they are making two things plain:

- Kosygin is anxious to lower temperatures over the seizure of the Pueblo.
- Moscow is in touch with North Korea despite Washington's assertion that the Russians have twice rejected U.S. requests for help in releasing the ship.

The latest disclosure indicates that North Korea is raising its price. On Friday, the Russians indicated that an acknowledgement that the ship had violated North Korean waters — an acknowledgement that could be made by payment of a fine—might be enough.

Just which captured North Koreans are supposed to be freed is unclear. There are probably dozens of North Koreans held in the South, both spies and soldiers taken during the frequent clashes at the 38th parallel in the last year.

Just what form the admission that the Pueblo was in North Korean waters should take is also murky. The Soviets note that North Korea has released a statement purportedly coming from the Pueblo's captain and conceding the violation.

When the Russians are told that this "confession" is couched in stilted language that no American would use, the reply is that the U.S. itself should explain clearly what the spy ship was doing. Another suggestion is that the payment of a fine would be satisfactory.

Soviet thinking on the

See KOSYGIN, A21, Col. 3

Pueblo being transmitted in a remarkably indirect but clearly purposeful manner. The reason for this may be some static in Moscow's lines to Washington and North Korea. Soviet officials say they are still gathering information from the two sides. They indicate that Washington has been unclear up to now over exactly what it will give to get the Pueblo freed. There is reason to believe that the Russians would welcome contact with American diplomats in New Delhi while Kosygin is here.

Sees Pueblo as Routine

Further confirmation that the Russian Premier wants to cool off the Pueblo incident came in a briefing tonight by an Indian spokesman. He said Kosygin had told Prime Minister Indira Gandhi that the Pueblo affair was a routine matter to be sorted out by the two parties involved.

The spokesman said Kosygin treated the incident as a violation of North Korea's waters and assured Mrs. Gandhi the Soviet Union would use all its power and influence to preserve world peace.

Turning to another trouble spot, the Indian official noted that President Johnson had sent Mrs. Gandhi a letter early this month requesting India's support for a strengthened International Control Commission to patrol Cambodia's border.

The spokesman said Mrs. Gandhi had replied that the Commission had but limited functions and could act only on complaints of border intrusions coming from the Cambodian government.

Tito Goes Home

Almost ignored in the diplomatic flurry here was the departure of another distinguished visitor, President Tito of Yugoslavia. In a communique issued after Tito left, he and Mrs. Gandhi expressed their "regret" that the bombing of North Vietnam had not ceased. The two leaders agreed that, in the light of the recent overtures by Hanoi, a bombing halt "could open up prospects for negotiations toward a political settlement" of the Vietnam war.

Tito, Kosygin and Mrs. Gandhi met for private talks only once, last night. Then they reportedly discussed the Pueblo affair, Vietnam and the tension in the Middle East. Kosygin is understood to have roundly condemned the American bombing and the whole U.S. posture in Southeast Asia.

Yorktown to Join Enterprise

By Ted Sell
Los Angeles Times

The aircraft carrier USS Yorktown and a screen of accompanying destroyers are moving toward the Sea of Japan to join the USS Enterprise task force off the coast of Korea, it was learned yesterday.

The Yorktown, an antisubmarine carrier, had been en route across the Pacific to replace the USS Kearsarge in the South China Sea. But it continued due west and is expected to move into the Sea of Japan soon.

With the arrival of the Yorktown task force, American naval strength off Korea will swell to about 30 vessels.

The nuclear-powered attack carrier Enterprise has a complement of 80 to 100 airplanes. The smaller, 31,000-ton Yorktown normally carries 28 airplanes and 12 helicopters—none of them attack planes but rather those designed for submarine detection and destruction.

Presumably, the Yorktown would help establish a protective surveillance screen around the Enterprise task force if combat operations were ordered.

In other action related to Communist seizure of the Pueblo, the Navy yesterday froze all requests for discharge by members of Naval Reserve drill units.

Six Naval aviation squadrons in a drill status were among Air Force and Navy Reserve units ordered to active duty Thursday by President Johnson.

The Navy said yesterday that applications for discharge from a drill-paid unit (the Ready Reserve) which had not been processed by last Wednesday will be held up until further notice. There was no indication if reserve components of the other services plan to follow suit.

[High school students in the Reserve would be exempt from callup until they graduate or drop out, Associated Press reported. College students could be deferred until the end of their current term, and seniors could get an extra quarter, semester or tri-mester if it would allow them to graduate.]

Civilian No Spy, Mother Declares

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 27 (AP)—The mother of Dunnie Richard Tuck, one of two civilians aboard the captured Navy intelligence ship Pueblo, said today he is not a spy, as claimed by the North Koreans.

"I know he is not a spy. He's an oceanographer," said Mrs. Dunnie R. Tuck of Richmond.

The North Koreans earlier this week cited an alleged statement by the Pueblo's captain, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, as identifying Tuck and the other civilian aboard, Harry Iredale, as "espionage agents."

Mrs. Tuck said her son was employed two years by the Naval Oceanographic Laboratory in Washington before going to the Pueblo as a civilian oceanographer. He is a graduate of Virginia Military Institute and of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

(Iredale was identified as a 1965 graduate of Pennsylvania State University, United Press International reported. His family in Holmes, Pa., said he has been working as an oceanographer for the Navy since graduation.)

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Sunday Post

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He Minimizes Dispute

Kosygin's Reaction Stirs U.S. Interest

By Warren Unna
Washington Post Staff Writer

Administration officials were both interested and skeptical yesterday about reports out of New Delhi that Soviet Premier Kosygin is minimizing the United States' dispute with North Korea and suggesting a trade of captured men.

They were interested because any move by the Soviets to defuse the situation obviously was preferable to any Soviet attempt to egg on the North Koreans.

They were skeptical about any trade of North Koreans captured during recent raids in South Korea for the 83-man crew of the U.S. Navy ship Pueblo who are now being held in North Korea.

For one thing, it was explained, only one North Korean was captured in the recent assassination attempt against South Korean President Park Chung Hee. U.S. officials say they don't know whether South Korea might have 82 more North Korean prisoners from past captures to balance the scales in a trade-off for the Pueblo crew.

For another, the North Koreans, who have had their differences with Moscow leadership in the past, may not go along with the Soviets in

See PUEBLO, A22, Col. 1

agreeing to any such trade. North Korea, for instance, insists that the assassination attempt against Park was made not by North Koreans but by South Koreans "patriots."

While Kosygin is visiting in India, the United States' own two direct approaches in Moscow for Soviet good offices with North Korea have gotten nowhere.

This was some of the thinking as President Johnson's senior advisers met at the State Department yesterday for perhaps the tenth or twelfth time since word on the Pueblo's capture was first flashed here Tuesday.

Taking part were Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, CIA Director Richard Helms, Gen. Earle C. Wheeler, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Under Secretary of State Nicholas deB. Katzenbach and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Samuel D. Berger. Berger, a former U.S. Ambassador to South Korea, heads State's special Korean crisis task force.

The President paid an unexpected visit to the National Press Club last night in connection with the inauguration of its new president, Allan W. Cromley, and told the audience that petty differences "should fade into the background" in times of crisis.

In Des Moines, Iowa, Vice President Humphrey told a Democratic Party conference that the Pueblo crisis had united Americans. He also said in an Associated Press interview that the Pueblo attack was designed to divert attention from North Korea's "political and economic mess" and to upset South Korea's plans to send 50,000 more troops to South Vietnam.

At the White House, Press Secretary George Christian said the President was in constant telephone touch with his senior advisers and personal meetings would be held with them throughout the weekend "as the situation warrants."

Christian refused to comment on statements by Sen. Karl Mundt (R-S.D.) that the Administration has agreed to review its policy of sending unescorted and lightly armed spy ships into hostile waters.

Mundt made his remarks after hearing testimony by Rusk Friday in a closed session of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

When queried, Rusk said his testimony had not been "accurately characterized."

In New York, Richard M. Nixon, again a probable Republican candidate for the Presidency, declared it "all but incredible" that no protection had been given the Pueblo.

"The Communist world has been jointly testing the proposition that the United States is over-extended, over-committed and under-prepared to act," Nixon told a Republican Women's Club luncheon.

He said the first order of business was to obtain the release of the Pueblo's 83 men. "But the longer-range need is to reestablish the credibility of American policy by reestablishing the credibility of American power," Nixon declared.

In Searcy, Ark., Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman J. W. Fulbright (D-Ark.) threw doubt on the Administration's insistence that the Pueblo had never intruded into North Korea's territorial waters.

Fulbright said flatly that his committee' investigation of the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin incident found the two U.S. destroyers involved had indeed intruded into the territorial waters of North Vietnam.

A Pentagon spokesman said yesterday that the USS Maddox was 25 miles from North Vietnam during the first attack by North Vietnamese patrol boats and that the Maddox and USS Turner Joy were 60 to 65 miles off the coast during the second attack. But he did not mention Fulbright's charges that the ships had been spying and had been in North Vietnamese territorial waters prior to the attacks.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) yesterday told Associated Press Reporter Jack Bell that he was satisfied that the Pueblo had been in international waters. "But if it would bring about the release of the ship and the crew, I would admit that it was taken in territorial waters, even though that is not the truth," Mansfield declared.

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United Press International

Red Patrol A patrol boat with a sign reading "Destroy the American invaders, the enemy of North Korea" is shown in a picture obtained from the official North Korean News Agency in Tokyo. Four such boats took part in capture of USS Pueblo.

N. Koreans Spurn Any U.N. Action

SEOUL, Korea, Jan. 27 (AP) —North Korea declared today it will not recognize any resolution of the U.N. Security Council on the seizure of the USS Pueblo. It said the nation is prepared for combat and could deliver the United States "an exterminatory blow."

The Communist regime at Pyongyang took its stand in a statement distributed by the official Korean Central News Agency.

It described the seizure of the Pueblo and her 83-man crew as "entirely right." It said North Korea acted correctly in taking "decisive measures of self-defense against the unpardonable aggressive acts of the U.S. imperialists."

The statement contended the United Nations had no right to discuss the Pueblo's seizure.

It added that the North Korean government "resolutely opposes the discussion of the illegal complaint of U.S. imperialism at the United Nations Security Council, will not recognize any resolution to be concocted to cover up U.S. imperialist aggression and will declare it null and void.

U.S. and South Korean military spokesmen here report5ed more small-scale incidents along the armistice line dividing North and South Korea.

U.S. Threatens War For Ship, China Says

TOKYO, Jan. 28 (Sunday) (AP) — Communist China accused the United States today of threatening war over the Pueblo incident and said Peking was watching developments "with grave concern."

The first Chinese comment on North Korea's capture of the American intelligence ship last Tuesday came in a broadcast by Peking Radio based on an official New China News Agency report. The Chinese previously had distributed North Korean reports of the incident without comment.

An unofficial translation of the Chinese statement said that, after the vessel's capture, the U.S. "presented the North Korean people with extremely open threats of war by raising the cries for war like a madman and deploying its armed forces."

The broadcast said the U.S. "threats" would not frighten the North Koreans. It said all U.S. "plots" would end in "shameful failure."

"The Chinese people, together with the peoples of the world, are watching with grave concern developments in the situation," it added.

The broadcast did not refer to any Chinese aid to the Koreans. Earlier, a Japanese dispatch from Peking said the People's Daily, the Chinese Communist Party's official organ, reported the Pueblo incident for domestic readers for the first time Saturday.

The newspaper Asahi said the People's Daily printed the reports of the official Korean Central News Agency on the top of its international page without comment.

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Soviets at U.N. Try To Cool Ship Crisis

Delegates Considering Plan to Send Mediator

By Robert H. Estabrook
Washington Post Foreign Service

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 27—The Soviet Union took a markedly more serious tone in the Security Council discussion of Korea today and in effect appealed to the United States to cool the crisis.

This aroused hope that consultations over the weekend may bring agreement on a Canadian suggestion that an intermediary be appointed to exercise his good offices in easing the tension over North Korean seizure of the American intelligence ship Pueblo and Communist raids into South Korea.

Britain emphatically supported the U.S. position on the Pueblo and called for release of the ship and its crew. Ethiopia suggested an investigation in which North Korea would be invited to participate.

After a lengthy rhetorical effort to place all blame on the United States, Soviet Ambassador Platon D. Morozov suddenly pleaded that "all those who want international peace and security should now display a general feeling of responsibility" and not permit the Far East to become "a hotbed of war."

He reverted to the same theme later, calling for a lessening of emotional feelings and stressing the heavy responsibility of the Council.

Other representatives regarded this as an indication of Soviet concern over possible American responses. One Communist diplomat noted that it followed the line taken by Soviet Premier Kosygin in New Delhi and that it was a significant new element in what otherwise appeared to be a continued effort by Morozov to stall for time.

Other Communist sources reported that American Ambassador John Gronouski had been with a North Korean representative in Warsaw yesterday with the help of the Polish Foreign Ministry. American contacts with North Korea also were said to be proceeding in other communist capitals.

See NATIONS, A23, Col. 1

[In Washington, White House and State Department officials denied there had been any American-North Korean meeting in Warsaw.]

If the Canadian suggestion of an intermediary should be adopted, he probably would have to work outside the framework of the United Nations because North Korea does not recognize U.N. competence to deal with the present question.

It thus is considered unlikely that any resolution would make more than a general reference to an intermediary. No resolution was in sight today, although the United States was said to have prepared a working paper for weekend discussions.

Hungarians Charge

Meanwhile, there was discussion in U.N. corridors of possible use of the moribund neutral nations supervisory commission which is still theoretically in existence under the 1953 Korean armistice. Czechoslovakia, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland serve on the body, which North Korea has not denounced.

In today's two-hour meeting, Hungarian Ambassador Karoly Csatorday "entirely" rejected American explanations of the Pueblo incident.

Instead, he claimed the United States had ordered "spy ships" into North Korean waters on 24 occasions and accused the United States of preparing for eventual armed attack on Korea.

Csatorday quoted a statement by Chairman J. William Fulbright of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that American ships had several times violated the territorial waters of North Vietnam during the Tonkin Gulf episode.

Goldberg Speaks

American Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg quoted a North Korean broadcast monitored in the Demilitarized Zone praising a raid into the South that killed a police chief.

Soviet ships performing precisely the same mission as the Pueblo have operated for eight years in the Sea of Japan, he said, and "frequently sail closer than 12 miles to the shore of neighboring states." Similar Soviet ships are in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and the Mediterranean Sea.

Goldberg identified a Soviet ship currently shadowing the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise as the Gidrolog. Roughly the same size as the Pueblo, the 840-ton Soviet vessel is 220 feet long with a 30-foot beam, a 20-knot speed and diesel engines with twin screws.

Security Council President Agha Shahi of Pakistan set the next meeting for Monday afternoon.

Before pleading for responsibility, Morozov echoed the Hungarian charges that the "imperialists" were plotting a new war. He implied that the United States had been guilty of more than 50,000 violations of the Korean armistice and contended that the troubles in South Korea were caused by the people of South Korea struggling against a regime sustained by American bayonets.

Morozov also disputed the coordinates given by Goldberg for the position of the Pueblo, charging that the United States had announced false coordinates for the position of the U-2 spy plane in 1960.

Britain's Lord Caradon had asserted previously that many Soviet ships carrying out the same task are "close to the shores of my country."

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A Threat to Big Twoism

Seizure of USS Pueblo Is Historic Because It Reflects Imbalance of Power

By Joseph Kraft

THE SEIZURE of the USS Pueblo is an outrageous incident which acquires historic importance because it expresses the imbalance of power that has resulted from the Vietnamese war.

For most of the recent past, international order has rested on a cooperative relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union — a relationship which may be called Big Twoism. But the Vietnamese war has so weakened the capacity of the Big Two to work together that small and reckless countries are emboldened to actions which endanger the whole system.

Big Twoism, of course, does not mean that the two super powers order everybody else around. On the contrary, Big Twoism rests on the assumption that the United States and Russia cannot exert tight control over local events.

What they can do is create a framework which makes it possible to manage uncontrolable local forces in a safe way. That pattern found a notable expression in the cease-fire which ended the Arab-Israeli war last spring. It is equally apparent in the settlements which have been made over Cuba, Berlin and, indeed, Korea.

The war in Vietnam inevitably imposes a severe strain on Big Twoism. The United States has concentrated attention and resources on the war in a way that is in conflict with American responsibilities around the world and at home. Not materially, perhaps, but psychologically and politically American power is near its outermost limit.

The war has put an equal strain on Soviet power. In bombing North Vietnam this country is assaulting a Communist nation headed by a notable leader with strong claims for international assistance.

NORTH VIETNAM has not been backward about asserting these claims on the leading Communist nation in the world, Russia. And with the Chinese Communists charging that the Soviet Union is a revisionist country seduced from the Leninist ideal by the United States, Moscow is in poor position to resist these demands.

In consequence, the Russians have steadily become more deeply engaged in the Vietnamese conflict. The air war in the North is largely a fight between sophisticated American and sophisticated Soviet equipment.

The deepening Soviet engagement in Vietnam, moreover has not been accompanied by a commensurate political leverage. All signs indicate that while the Russians would like to curb the war, Hanoi refuses to relent. If anything, the spectacle of Moscow paying the piper while Hanoi chooses the tune, has tended to weaken Russia's influence in the Communist world.

The Pueblo incident becomes relevant at this point because inside the Communist world, North Korea has much in common with North Vietnam. Like North Vietnam, North Korea has designs on an anti-Communist regime in the south which is supported by the United States.

North Korea also has ties to both Russia and China—indeed, a common border with the two countries. And North Korean Premier Kim Il Sung has also used the Vietnamese war as a lever for playing off Peking against Moscow and increasing his bargaining power in both capitals.

THUS, in a rebuff to Peking he has supported Moscow's plan for "unified action" on behalf of Hanoi. But at the same time he served notice that Moscow's will to stand up to the United States was on trial.

As he put it in a major discourse in October, 1966: "The common struggle against American imperialism is going to trace a clear line between the Marxist-Leninists and the revisionists . . . The true and the false are going to reveal themselves by their actions."

With so much in common, North Korea acts in tandem with North Vietnam not by orchestration but by sympathetic harmony. The seizure of the Pueblo is in a little way an extension of the fight waged by North Vietnam against the kind of order once imposed by Big Twoism.

All this, of course, does not mean that the North Koreans should be allowed to get away with an act of piracy. But it does suggest that pressure should be applied in a way which works to separate the Soviet Union from North Korea.

For at bottom the Pueblo incident only underlines the growing strain imposed by the Vietnamese war on relations between Russia and the United States. The continuation and expansion of the war advances the power of dissatisfied men everywhere to transgress the limits of reasonable behavior.

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N. Korea Broke a Non-Rule on Spying

By John Maffre
Washington Post Staff Writer

THE COUNTRY whose spies get caught off base usually has no option but to adopt a posture of pained silence, like the man with a hangover. He cannot cure his problem; he can only outlive it.

But last week the non-rules that hover around the art of spying, or gathering intelligence, were badly shaken when the North Koreans forced the USS Pueblo into their port of Wonsan.

No one was off base. By all accounts the Navy was snooping without trespassing on North Korea's sea or air or land space. It was not hurting the North Koreans or threatening them; it is highly unlikely that it was interfering with their communications because its job was to listen, not to obstruct.

Navy ships have done that off North Korea for years the way Russian trawlers and naval auxiliaries are doing it today off both coasts of the United States, an irritating presence but part of a warfare that is measurable only on a political thermometer. The two big powers have agreed tacitly to keep it that way. It is hardly a gentlemen's agreement, considering the nature of the activity that's involved, but it is certainly a working arrangement.

Now the North Koreans have upset the non-rules that the big powers lived with, for reasons best known to themselves (or to Peking—or even Moscow). Certainly this will bring about an urgent reappraisal of spy methods, not only by the United States but by every country engaged in spying.

The Naked Mighty

THE FACT is that the United States cannot bear to be without a sensitive, costly and indefatigable spy apparatus. Neither can Russia, France, Britain, West Germany or Israel. Neither can any country that is large enough to be reckoned as a major ally or enemy, large enough to feel naked unless it is reasonably well informed on what its big neighbors are up to.

Yet for all its vital importance, spying has one major and insuperable limitation. It can put together an amazing dossier on what the most secretive hostile power has in hand, but it can make only an educated guess — and perhaps a disastrously wrong one — at what the enemy intends to do with it.

Sometimes the powers get caught at it.

In the summer of 1960 an RB47 jet reconnaissance plane probed into the Barents Sea far north of Moscow and was shot down. Months later, President Kennedy's persuasion was needed to get the two officers released. The plane was apparently on a mission that could be called a feint, to smoke out the detection capability the Russians had going for them on the cold roof of the world. The fliers found out.

That year, too, the CIA got caught off base. Its U-2 plane flown by Gary Powers was picked off high over Russia by a SAM (surface-to-air missile) that people didn't think was all that accurate at such a height. It was.

The U-2 affair points up why the non-rules of the spying business hardly permit it to be called a gentlemen's agreement. The plane had been produced by Lockheed for the CIA in the mid-1950s and by 1956 it had made passes over Russia. The Russians knew about it. They couldn't do anything at the time because they lacked the technical means, but they were very annoyed and they protested privately in Washington.

Washington made some polite noises and perhaps the U-2 flights were held off for a while, but they were resumed. There may have been 20 or 30 or more, sometimes from Turkey, sometimes from Norway, and on some occasions the slower and lower Migs of the day scrambled in vain to catch the high intruder. Finally that SAM either nicked it or came close enough to cause a flameout.

American military snooping is technically elaborate and highly professional but, despite the best efforts of retiring Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, not entirely coordinated. It was he who established the Defense Intelligence Agency to bring about more cohesion and to cut down the interservice rivalry that has always been the curse of the military departments.

One technical expert who is occasionally summoned to work with DIA or one of its members remarked sadly that the services "infiltrated" their best men into DIA and that too many of them regard their own service as their primary interest, and perpetuate the rivalry.

A Super Snooper

BY ITS OWN CHOICE, the Central Intelligence Agency works no closer with the Defense apparatus than duty requires. The CIA also cherishes its separateness from the even more secretive National Security Agency, the vast code-breaking and analyzing plant completed ten years ago out at Ft. Meade, Md. The NSA is nominally under the Defense Secretary and its top slot is always held by an admiral or a general, but it generally operates according to rules known only to itself.

Unlike the CIA, a widely dispersed field agency which casts a broad net for all kinds of political, scientific and economic as well as military information, the various Defense establishments have a narrower scope.

The Army, through its Army Security Agency, naturally operates from more fixed positions than the other two services. As far as ASA's role in eavesdropping is concerned, its fixed installations allow it to mount enormously powerful radio and radar equipment that can scan a good 100 miles into an otherwise closed country, and the Army has some highly complex bases in Turkey, Pakistan, Iran and Taiwan as well as in continental Europe.

Host countries like Thailand, Pakistan and Turkey are very sensitive about such installations on their soil. Some of them allow so few foreign personnel in, particularly military men, that it's a problem keeping the plants operating round the clock.

The navy has always — at least until last week — enjoyed a particular advantage. It could slip up close to a country that was being observed without breaking international law, and sit there for almost indefinite periods, listening in on traffic, locating radar sites and gathering information that would permit their jamming. But in military terms, jamming is an ace to be used sparingly, because it immediately indicates to the other side that something big is in the wind, like shooting.

There are supposed to be about a dozen intelligence-type ships like the Pueblo in the Navy, and perhaps a slightly larger number of oceanographic vessels with an intelligence capability. Moreover, the combat vessels of the Navy have wide varieties of snooping capability.

Last year the unfortunate USS Liberty sailed too close to the Arab-Israeli war and got badly shot up by Israeli jets, losing 34 men killed and at least 75 wounded. The curious thing about the Liberty incident is that the Joint Chiefs had become worried that she was sailing too close to the combat zone and sent a message ordering her to move away, but somehow the message was not received.

At least the Pentagon has emerged to some extent from its age of innocence in that it has acknowledged what ships like the Pueblo are up to. One naval spokesman observed that "intelligence collection by naval vessels is a routine activity among major powers." That's a great advance over the laughable cover story first put out about the Liberty: that she was meandering around those waters using the moon as a passive reflector in communications. Or the first one in 1960 about the U-2, that it was a NASA weather plane that had unaccountably gone astray.

On the other side of the fence, the Russians have shown an energy and ingenuity in maritime snooping that no other nation can match. In fact, U.S. Navy experts constantly remind Congress of the march the Soviets are stealing on the Western navies.

There are reports, for example, that at least half a dozen Soviet electronic spy ships are prowling up and down the U.S. East Coast. They are supposed to be part of a force of over 40 such vessels, a number of them in the Mediterranean and the eastern Atlantic.

There are also literally hundreds of superbly equipped trawlers roaming the oceans. They catch a lot of fish and process them on the high seas with packing and refrigerating equipment that is the envy of other nations. But they also funnel back to Moscow a mosaic of maritime information, not all of it strictly military but including esoteric oceanographic data about the seas around Western countries.

The purely snooping ships are called AGI, or Auxiliary General Intelligence. They can be up to 200 feet long and equipped with the most up to date radio and radar equipment. Sometimes these ships sail right in between American and other NATO country ships in maneuvers in the Atlantic or the Mediterranean, coming so close that they are a hazard. Some years ago, a Soviet trawler moved in to photograph the submarine George Washington 60 miles north of Long Island, when it was firing dummy Polaris missiles, and almost collided with a Navy tug.

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The Options for the U.S.

President Johnson's partial mobilization of reserves in the Korean crisis appeared to have two objectives: to strengthen Washington's hand in its search for a diplomatic solution by warning North Korea of military action if she refuses to free the Pueblo, and to provide additional muscle for possible military action if the diplomatic effort fails. The trouble was that the diplomatic possibilities seemed sparse and the military options difficult.

Prospects of an early diplomatic settlement plummeted when Moscow—on whose cooperation in avoiding another major confrontation the U.S. had placed its main hopes—refused to intercede. At the weekend the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow, Llewellyn E. Thompson, was trying again, and there were some hints in Washington that the Russians had a special interest in settling the affair in view of the vulnerability of their own elints to capture or exposure. The Russians maintain elints constantly off the Polaris bases in Charleston, S. C. (just outside the three-mile limit claimed by the United States), Guam, Holy Loch in Scotland, and Rota in Spain (also just outside the claimed limits) and by last Friday even the Enterprise off the South Korean coast had a Russian elint on its tail.

Russia's Difficulty

It may be, however, as some Asian diplomats in Moscow suggest, that the Soviet Union feels it simply cannot afford to risk its newly restored and still fragile relationship with North Korea by interceding, in response either to pleas or arm-twisting.

No other influential go-between seems available. The United Nations—technically still an enemy of North Korea in the "armistice" still in force between Pyongyang and the United Nations Command—is ill equipped to handle the crisis, as the North Korean denial of its competence underscored.

As for the military options, if diplomacy fails, these ranged from relatively mild eye-for-an-eye moves, such as capturing a North Vietnamese vessel or two in international waters and offering a trade, to storming into Wonsan harbor and retrieving the Pueblo by force.

A dash into Wonsan, it was conceded, would be costly and dangerous. The harbor is about 12 miles deep, and its approaches are guarded by defended islands, mined channels, coastal artillery, surface-to-air missiles, anti-aircraft guns and jet fighters.

Before an American party could venture into the beehive, large numbers of strikes would have to be flown against all of the defenses, and probably against several other North Korean air bases as well.

Another option would be to bomb and sink the Pueblo, thus demonstrating willingness to strike back forcibly and denying the Communists further intelligence gains. But here, too, planners suggest, certain defenses would have to be struck.

Either type of attack would risk Chinese or Soviet intervention. In either case the lives of the Pueblo's crewmen could be lost.

Seizing one or more of North Korea's vessels is more appealing to some strategists, but North Korea has few vessels, the largest being a fish-canning ship that almost never leaves port. The other vessels have been keeping very close to shore since the Pueblo incident.

Partial Blockade?

The United States could also blockade some or all of North Korea. A blockade could begin by closing only Wonsan, the most important port on the east coast of North Korea, with the threat of extending it progressively until North Korea agreed to return the Pueblo and its crew and stop sending terrorist teams in South Korea.

All these options clearly contained a strong element of risk. The question thus reduced itself to one of political judgment as to what degree of risk was justifiable. The prevailing Administration view was that failure to respond strongly to the North Korean challenge would convince Pyongyang that the Vietnam involvement had rendered the United States unable or unwilling to take any risks—and that further provocations would follow. As one senior American official put it, "Unless North Korea backs down, we have no choice but to take the escalator."

But another view was that the evidence that this was a deliberate Communist provocation was not yet fully conclusive — that the North Koreans might, after all, have been reacting to what they regarded as a provocative American act. "The American state of mind," said a Western observer in Seoul, "is just as unreadable to many Asians as the other way around." In that case the escalator might not, after all, be necessary.

The Key Question Is: Why Did They Do It?

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What made the Pueblo incident particularly disturbing was that it came after more than a year of stepped-up North Korean military pressure against South Korea. "Significant incidents" of Communist infiltration across the 38th parallel increased from about 50 in 1966 to about 550 in 1967. Only last Sunday a North Korean commando team sent to assassinate South Korean President Chung Hee Park got to within a quarter-mile of the President's residence in Seoul before being apprehended. Against that background the capture of the Pueblo looked to many like the deliberate move the Administration said it was—a move with broader purposes in view.

What those purposes might be was admittedly difficult for the United States to "psych-out." The United States knows very little about the North Korean regime of Premier Kim Il Sung. There are no diplomatic relations with Pyongyang, no friendly embassies in that capital to act as intermediaries, only a tenuous truce structure left over from the 1953 armistice to provide an unsatisfactory forum for discussions.

Yet enough is known in Seoul to give at least a rough idea of Pyongyang's view of the world—and some indications, therefore, of what the North Koreans may be up to.

The mental world-map of the North Koreans consists of white spots for Communist or "friendly" countries such as the Soviet Union, mainland China, Cuba and Algeria; a Japan cross-hatched with heavy black lines (representing a pro-Western government) on white (for a "friendly" population); and big black blotches for the rest of the globe. The biggest black blotch is the United States.

Ten years ago Premier Kim inaugurated what he called a 10-year program to prepare for the reopening of the Korean war. North Korea is known to possess a military force-in-being of 362,500 men, plus a well-trained 1.2-million-man militia. The North Koreans have completed an elaborate system of underground fortifications, including subterranean air bases, arsenals and headquarters.

Pyongyang strives to maintain a neutral diplomatic stance in the conflict between Communist China with its encouragement of "national liberation wars," and Russia, with its more cautious "coexistence" line. But philosophically the North Korean Government seems aligned with Mao Tse-tung. The recent emergence of pro-Peking elements in upper strata of the ruling hierarchy seems to have strengthened that tendency. A widespread purge of moderates directed by the Premier's younger brother, Kim Yong Chu, is said to have installed a tough-minded military group in positions of power.

North Korea, Premier Kim declared before the Supreme People's Assembly last month, must be a base for a "revolutionary effort [to] liberate [South Korea] at all costs." Against South Korea's highly regarded military force of 600,000—and the two U.S. Army divisions that symbolize the American commitment—Kim would not necessarily have to mount another 1950-type invasion. He could expand his infiltration campaign to set up bases in South Korea for a major commando-type operation. He might even try to start a Southern guerrilla movement, though the sort of peasant disaffection that gave the Communists their political base in South Vietnam is missing in South Korea.

Just as the infiltration may be a way of testing the ground for sharper military action again the South, so the seizure of the Pueblo, it was reasoned in Seoul and Washington, may be a way of testing the readiness of United States—embroiled as it is in Vietnam—to resist a broadened North Korean offensive.

Another aim may be to divert both the United States and South Korea (which has 48,000 men in South Vietnam) from the Vietnam effort. Pyongyang has been calling for such "diversionary" tactics in recent months. Yet another possible motive discerned in Seoul was one of propaganda: Pyongyang may have sought to enhance its stature at home and in the rest of the Communist world by humiliating the United States.

Nor were American officials overlooking what the North Koreans and the Chinese—and, most of all, the Russians—stood to gain from the capture and study of the Pueblo's electronic gear. The vessel's 900-ton hull carried some of the most advanced, sophisticated and ultra-secret radio, radar, sonar and other equipment—devices that have not even been named in public yet.

Some of this equipment was blown up by the crew, according to signals received in Washington; it was possible that was how the reported casualties (three or four crewmen injured and one killed occurred, though it was still not definitely known whether there was firing by one or both sides during the boarding. But some of the devices may not have been destroyed in time. Besides, the ship's complement included some highly trained specialists in intelligence-gathering techniques—an interesting prize for Communist interrogators.

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COUNCIL ON KOREA: President Johnson is shown with the National Security Council which he convened last Wednesday on the Korean crisis. Clockwise, from left foreground: Walt Rostow, Presidential assistant; Leonard Marks, United States Information Agency director; Richard Helms, C.I.A. director; Joseph Sisto, State Department aide; Lucius Battle, Assistant Secretary of State; Nicholas Katzenbach, Under Secretary of State; Dean Rusk, Secretary of State; President Johnson; Robert McNamara, Defense Secretary; Paul Nitze, Deputy Defense Secretary; Gen. Earle Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff; Bromley Smith, N.S.C. executive secretary.

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Confrontation Over a Ship Off Korea

In the intelligence business they call them "elint" ships. Elint stands for electronic in-intelligence. Both the United States and the Soviet Union have long operated these vessels around the world—snooping along the coastlines of each other's defense blocs, intercepting military radio transmissions, plotting the location and operational frequency of radar installations.

Elints lead hectic if unpublicized lives. American elints are frequently buzzed by jets, photographed by hovering helicopters and harassed by patrol boats of the Soviet bloc. The reverse is also true. Yet all these years the United States and Russia seem to have had a tacit agreement not to interfere physically with each other's elints.

Thus it may not have seemed unusual last Tuesday to the skipper of the electronic intelligence ship, U.S.S. Pueblo, when his vessel was approached by a patrol boat off the North Korean port of Wonsan.

This time, however, the Koreans "broke the rules." "Heave to or I will open fire on you," came the order to the Pueblo. Ignoring the order, Commander Lloyd M. Bucher replied: "I am in international waters." U.S. officials later said the ship was at least four miles outside the 12-mile limit that North Korea claims for her territorial waters. The patrol boat was joined by three others, and an hour and 45 minutes after the first challenge the Pueblo, which was armed only with two machine guns, was boarded and forced to put into Wonsan harbor.

From Pyongyang, their capital, the Korean Communists the next day broadcast what they claimed was the voice of Commander Bucher reciting, in the most peculiar English, an abject confession of "criminal" intrusion into Korean waters for which "the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency promised me . . . a lot of dollars." Westerners in Tokyo who monitored the broadcast said it sounded as though the Commander was stumbling through a statement given to him just as he went on the air.

The humiliating loss of the Pueblo, with its blow to the proud American Naval tradition of not giving up the ship, created a crisis atmosphere in Washington and other Western capitals. The crisis deepened day by day as North Korea ignored American demands for a return of the vessel and its 83-man crew, insisting that the Pueblo had violated North Korean waters. A request to the Russians to use their good offices in Pyongyang was turned down cold. An angry chorus in the U.S. Congress demanded military action, if necessary, to free the ship and the men.

Senator George Russell, Chairmon of the Armed Services Committee, said the seizure was "a breach of international law amounting to an act of war." Senator Strom Thurmond, Republican of South Carolina, sent President Johnson a telegram recommending that the United States give "the North Koreans an ultimatum that the Pueblo will be retaken by force if it is not delivered within a specified period of time." Representative Bob Wilson, Republican of California, said, "If this means sending in military and naval cover, it must be done—and done at once."

President Johnson took "precautionary measures," calling up 14,787 Air Force and Navy reservists, ordering the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise to take up a position off the South Korean coast, and going on television Friday to emphasize the "gravity of the situation" created by Pyongyang's "wanton" act. "Clearly this cannot be accepted," he said. But he was mindful, too, of the potential danger of a new Asian war on China's and Russia's doorsteps. "We shall continue," he said, "to use every means available to find a prompt and a peaceful solution to the problem."

Restraint was the counsel also of some of the leading members of Congress. American elints, according to competent sources in Washington, are under orders to stay in international waters at all times, and Secretary of State Rusk said "we have no information whatever" that the Pueblo might have penetrated North Korean waters before being chased and seized outside the 12-mile limit. Nevertheless, considering the nature of the intelligence business, there was a widespread feeling that not all the facts of the case were publicly known. Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield said that pending further information, "we ought to keep our shirts on."

One piece of information that contributed to second thoughts on the incident — even among some who at first had rallied most strongly to the flag—was that North Korea had publicly warned she might take action against American "spy boats" after the Pueblo began her coastal mission about two weeks ago. It was not strange to hear a dove like Senator Fulbright comment that he was only now learning what actually happened in the Gulf of Tonkin and that he did not expect to learn the full facts of the Pueblo case for another two or three years. But when a hawk like Senator Karl Mundt, Republican of South Dakota, also criticized the Administration for possibly imprudent actions in an extremely sensitive area, it suggested that fears of military overextension were biting deep in Congress.

The Administration, Mr. Mundt, was said to have told Mr. Rusk in a closed-door Foreign Relations Committee hearing, had "bungled very badly" in the Pueblo case. He added that "we should not be running spy ships into controversial areas in a provocative manner unless it is highly important that we get information that is not otherwise available," and that essential missions should have adequate air or naval protection nearby. Mr. Rusk was said to have replied that the Administration "might have to rethink" its policies on use of electronic intelligence ships off Communist shores.

Whatever the reservations on Capitol Hill, the Administration moved strongly on the diplomatic front at the weekend by placing the issue—against Russian opposition — before the United Nations Security Council. Calling the incident "a deliberate premeditated armed attack on a United States vessel on the high seas," Ambassador Goldberg appealed to the Council to act with "the greatest urgency" to obtain the release of the ship and her crew. Council action, he said, would be preferable to "other remedies" authorized by the U.N. Charter.

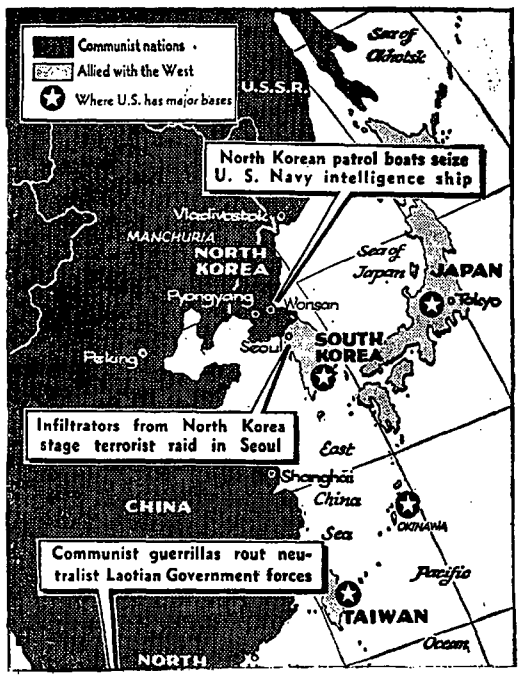
The allusion was pointed. Article 51 of the Charter reserves to individual members their "inherent right [of] self-defense" pending U.N. action.

The Russian tactic at the Council meeting was to scoff, but the quick North Korean reaction was even more discouraging. The Pyongyang regime said it "resolutely opposes the discussion of the illegal complaint of U. S. imperialism at the United Nations Security Council, will not recognize any resolution to be concocted to cover up U.S. imperialist aggression, and will declare [such a resolution] null and void."

The only thing the United Nations can legally do, Pyongyang said, is "condemn" the United States. Defiantly it declared that the whole North Korean nation was prepared for combat and would meet any American attack with an "exterminating blow."

Associated Press

PROBLEMS FOR THE U.S. IN ASIA



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N. Korea Said to Set Terms for Talks

By Robert H. Estabrook
Washington Post Foreign Service

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 29—Three members of the Security Council were reported today to have expressed belief that North Korea would send a representative to a Council meeting if it were broadened to discuss more than the Pueblo incident.

Soviet, Hungarian and Algerian diplomats here are said to have advised others that North Korea probably would be willing to participate in a Council session—despite its denial of United Nations competence—if it were not placed in the dock over the Pueblo affair.

The United States is understood to be willing to discuss with North Korea all issues in dispute, but only if the immediate crisis is first settled through release of the American intelligence ship and its 83-man crew.

Another report circulated that the Soviet Union has indicated that North Korea might be willing to release the crew and ship if the United States de-escalated the crisis. This report could not be verified.

One way in which de-escalation could be signified, it was suggested, would be to move the nuclear powered aircraft carrier Enterprise farther away from the shores of North Korea.

Two Communist diplomats disclosed separately that an Asian country has been mentioned as a possible intermediary acceptable to both North Korea and the Soviet Union. One said it is Indonesia, which maintains an embassy in Pyongyang, the North Korean capital.

Western sources said there also had been suggestions—presumably from the Soviet Union or Hungary—that a solution to the Pueblo situation could be achieved if the United States would recognize the soverign rights of North Korea.

Apart from the Pueblo and North Korea's sovereignty, Pyongyang presumably would like to discuss such subjects as the division of Korea and the presence of 50,000 U.S. troops in South Korea.

Intensive diplomatic efforts to find a formula for calming the dispute continued here today. One Western diplomat said he could not remember a time when they had been more intense.

Security Council President Agha Shahi of Pakistan postponed a Council meeting scheduled for this afternoon to allow further time for this consultation.

American Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg met Sunday with Soviet Ambassador Platon D. Morozov and with other members of the 15-nation Council. He was expected to see Morozov again soon.

Proceedings here have been at two levels. On the first, formal meetings of the Council Friday and Saturday enabled the United States to present its case against North Korea for seizure of the Pueblo and in effect to appeal to world opinion.

Goldberg is understood to have satisfied himself completely before presenting the case here that the facts about the capture of the Pueblo in international waters were as he related them.

Despite Soviet efforts to compare the circumstances to false American statements in the 1960 U-2 spy plane incident in the Soviet Union and the 1961 Bay of Pigs episode in Cuba, most non-Communist Council members are said to have been satisfied that the U.S. case this time was well documented.

Even if the North Korean allegations that the Pueblo had been apprehended in territorial waters were true, it is pointed out that under international law North Korea's obligation would have been to escort the ship back into international waters rather than to seize it and the crew.

But the United States is not interested in a formal Security Council resolution, which the Soviet Union could be expected to veto. Rather, it is concerned with providing a framework whereby private diplomatic efforts can be pursued to obtain the prompt release of the Pueblo and its crew.

This is the second and more important level of activity and there were hints this afternoon that the probing extends far outside the United Nations. Although definitive results have not yet been achieved, diplomatic channels have by no means been exhausted.

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Johnson Meets With Top Advisers On Korean, Vietnam Problems

By Carroll Kilpatrick
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Johnson conferred with top official as well as unofficial advisers on Korea and Vietnam yesterday but no major decision or progress on either crisis was announced.

With the American military buildup proceeding in Korea as well as at the threatened Khesanh base in Vietnam, Mr. Johnson held a day-long series of meetings on the critical Asian developments. There appeared to be considerable concern about the threat to Khesanh.

All of the members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff were summond to the White House for a meeting with the President.

Press Secretary George Christian said that while diplomatic efforts to free the Pueblo and its crew were continuing, "there has been and is a prudent and orderly and limited deployment of American military forces in the area."

On Capitol Hill, Senate speeches reflected the growing concern over North Korea's failure to show any signs of meeting American demands.

As Mr. Johnson often does when critical problems beset him, he brought in such former officials as George W. Ball, former Under Secretary of State; McGeorge Bundy, former Special Assistant for National Security; Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Cyrus R. Vance, former Deputy Secretary of Defense.

They lunched with the President after holding meetings Sunday and Monday morning at the State Department and White House.

Also at the luncheon were Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, Secretary-designate Clark M. Clifford, Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs, and Henry Cabot Lodge, Ambassador at Large and former Ambassador to Vietnam.

The Defense Department announced that additional "aircraft, ships and bodies" had been alerted for "possible movement" to the Korean area in connection with the Pueblo crisis.

"We are continuing our efforts to reach a peaceful solution" in Korea, Christian reported. He said that in addition to the announced efforts to achieve a solution through the United Nations and with the assistance of Moscow, "there are a number of other channels available to us which are active at this time."

"It would not be desirable to discuss these," he added. He indicated, however, that an attempt by the International Red Cross to obtain information on the condition of the Pueblo's crew had not yet been successful.

The meeting with the Joint Chiefs, Christian said, was to discuss Vietnam civil and military questions raised by cables and other reports to the President over the week end. Korea also was discussed, he said.

The unofficial advisers considered, in addition to critical military issues, the Asian aid programs and civil developments in Vietnam. Christian said that the group meets periodically with the President.

At the Capitol, Senate Republican Leader Everett M. Dirksen (Ill.) said "I don't disdain diplomatic efforts, but I want to be sure that North Korea does not get the idea they can get away with this.

"We've been treated to a king-sized dose of caution from some quarters . . . Let's not be impatient, they say."

But no one should get the idea the United States is "going to take this lying down," Dirksen said.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana, however, urged caution. He said it would do no good to go into Wonsan and recapture the Pueblo by force or bomb North Korea as that would "seal the doom" of the 83 Americans.

Two Republican Senators—Karl E. Mundt (S.D.) and Robert P. Griffin (Mich.)—called for an investigation of the ship's seizure.

In asking for the inquiry, Mundt said that "the United States will emerge from this experience a weaker and sadder Nation."

Soviets Said To Want Quiet Talks

By Bernard D. Nossiter
Washington Post Foreign Service

NEW DEHI, Jan. 29—The Soviet Union is disturbed by what it considers over-publicized American efforts to seek Moscow's aid in resolving the Pueblo crisis.

Russian informants indicated today that if the Soviet Union is to play any role, much more discreet approach is required for both internal and external political reasons.

The attention drawn to American overtures is blamed for the absence of a Soviet response. And the insistence on quieter diplomacy, it is explained, stems from several factors.

The Russians are suspicious of U.S. motives. They say that their earlier attempts to play a middleman role in North Vietnam frequently blew up in their faces because of some fresh incident or escalation on the American side.

The Soviet Union is also said to fear that its prestige would be damaged if an overt move to solve the Pueblo problem failed.

Moreover, Moscow is reluctant to appear in the eyes of the world to be telling North Korea what to do. Russia's heavy-handed dealings in the Communist world have touched off resentful feelings that are still causing Moscow pain. Thus, anything that Russia does in the Pueblo affair must not appear to infringe on North Korea's sovereignty.

As the Russians themselves point out, their relations with Pyongyang are somewhat tenuous. They have improved since the days when North Korea looked exclusively to China but are still a matter of some delicacy.

Finally, the Russians have their own hawks with which they must contend. The suggestion here is that there are forces in the Soviet Union that would like to see the United States involved in a second Asian front and are urging that nothing be done to reduce the tension generated by the Pueblo's seizure.

For all these reasons, Moscow is indicating that it can serve as a channel at only the most secret level.

Meanwhile, Premier Kosygin, who is visiting here, and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi held a long day of talks. A persistent theme was reported to be Chinese power.

Mrs. Gandhi, it is understood, proposed that New Delhi and Moscow exchange intelligence on Peking's activities. Indian sources say that a similar arrangement now exists with the United States. Kosygin was reportedly cool to the idea, perhaps because of the Indo-American intelligence tie.

Kosygin is said to have urged the Indians to settle their differences with Pakistan, arguing that such a resolution would further isolate Peking. Mrs. Ghandhi is believed to have answered with the standard New Delhi line: India would welcome a settlement but Pakistan first wants to solve the historic dispute over Kashmir and New Delhi wants to talk about Kashmir only after other issues are resolved.

In one area, the Indian Ocean, there appears to be a closer meeting of minds. The Indians proposed that they fill the power vacuum in the region that will be left by the departure of the British. To do this, New Delhi would want more arms aid. The Russians are believed to have looked sympathetically at this suggestion. From their standpoint, an armed Indian presence in the ocean would be more desirable than an American force.

The Associated Press reported this separate development from Paris:

The Russians privately accept the American explanation that the Pueblo was in international waters when the North Koreans seized it, Western diplomatic sources reported. This conflicts with Soviet Premier Kosygin's statement Sunday that the vessel had violated North Korean territorial waters.

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Pueblo Fatality Reported

Rest of Crew Well Treated, U.S. Is Told

By Carroll Kilpatrick
Washington Post Staff Writer

Administration officials said yesterday that they had received reports that one crew member of the Pueblo was dead. The others were being properly treated by their North Korean captors.

The White House and the Defense Department said they were unable to confirm the reliability of the reports, which also said that medical attention was being given to the wounded or injured.

The International Red Cross, which was asked to contact the North Korean Red Cross, apparently has been unsuccessful to date in its efforts to obtain firm information on the condition and whereabouts of the Pueblo's crew.

Injuries Reported

Just before the Pueblo was captured, it reported that three or four of its men were hurt, one critically.

North Korean Gen. Pak Chung Kuk said at Panmunjom Wednesday that North Korea's vessels "returned the fire" of the Pueblo, "thus killing and wounding several soldiers of the U.S. imperialist aggressive army."

White House Press Secretary George Christian gave the first report yesterday that information had been received that the men were being properly treated and the injured were receiving medical attention.

Later, the Defense Department said that it had an unconfirmed report that one man was dead. The supposition was that the seriously injured man had died. He reportedly suffered severe leg injuries at the time of the capture.

Problem Studied

President Johnson continued to divide his time between the Korean problem and the Communist offensive in South Vietnam, Christian indicated.

One of the President's sharpest critics—Chairman J. W. Fulbright (D-Ark.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was called to the White House early yesterday to hear a briefing by the President, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Also present were Chairman Thomas E. Morgan (D-Pa.) of the House Foreign Affairs

See PUEBLO, A14, Col. 3

Commitee and other Democratic Congressional leaders.

Senate Republican Leader Everett M. Dirksen (Ill.) and House Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford (Mich.) came to the White House later and were also briefed.

Fulbright later reported that the President "has great hopes that diplomatic procedures will be able to solve" the Korean crisis.

The Senator said he too was optimistic, "not because I know anything" but because negotiations have resolved other similar crises.

Negotiations should work unless both sides have "gone completely mad," Fulbright said.

In New York, Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg met with United Nations Secretary General U Thant on the Korean problem.

No date has yet been set for another meeting of the Security Council, and no early resolution by the Security Council appeared likely.

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WASH POST

Reagan Asks End of Korea 'Appeasement'

By JACKSON DOYLE
Special to The Star

SACRAMENTO — Republican Gov. Ronald Reagan says there are ways of halting "appeasement" of North Korea in the Pueblo incident, but the Joint Chiefs of Staff should decide exactly how.

At his first Capitol press conference since capture of the U.S. intelligence ship and its 83 crewmen, reporters sought elaboration on the presidential "favorite son" candidate's recent off-the-cuff remarks that the U.S should have given North Korea 24 hours to release the Pueblo or "go in and get it."

Cites Alternatives

He explained yesterday: "When you use the term 'Go in and get it; I don't think this should be taken literally as meaning you are going to go in and put a tow line and pull it out of there.

"Now there are a number of alternatives that would have been open. I don't know that anyone outside the government who doesn't have access to the Joint Chiefs of Staff could make a choice from outside as to what should be the procedure.

"But there are a number of things that have since been proposed by people with experience in the national government involving blockading of harbors, involving the counter-seizing of their shipping and holding it uuntil ours is returned.

"But I still say there is no moral justification for this country standing by and letting what amounts to an act of piracy, an act of war, be perpetrated upon us and write off 83 young men and hope that maybe some way the other side will soften and give them back."

Doesn't Ask Attack

Later in response to further questions, Reagan reiterated that he was not calling for an "armed attack, a bombing, or an invasion."

He said, however, that the ship involved was in international waters when seized by North Koreans and that President Johnson's conduct in the entire incident "is a continuation of a policy of appeasement that started a long time ago."

"When we started writing letters and asking others to intervene for us, we had lost when could have been our best method," Reagan said.

"We are the most powerful nation in the world and I wonder what guarantee any American citizen has from any little fifth-rate power, if it is apparent that they could tweak our nose and get away with it."

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U.N. Afro-Asian Bloc Weighs Mediation Role on Pueblo

By GEORGE SHERMAN
Star Staff Writer

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y.—The Afro-Asian bloc sought here today to put together an initiative in the crisis over North Korean seizure of the USS Pueblo.

Following a statement last night by the Security Council president for January, Pakistani Ambassador Agha Shahi, that Afro-Asian delegations were undertaking "urgent consultations" on their own, the five bloc members currently holding seats on the Security Council were to meet here this morning.

They are Algeria, Ethiopia, India, Pakistan and Senegal.

The main thrust of their effort is believed to be toward an Afro-Asian intermediary to gain release of the Pueblo and its crew from North Korea, while appealing to the United States to desist from any more military escalation in the Korean area. The mediation would be unofficial and outside any formal resolution of the Security Council.

Consulate Relations

One advantage is that many members of the Afro-Asian bloc at the United Nations have consulate relations with North Korea.

The initiative would probe both North Korean and American intentions.

So far no delegation here—including the Russians and their allies—has been able to say definitely what North Korea wants for release of the Pueblo and her crew.

Western diplomats, while uncertain whether the Afro-Asians can agree or get any farther than anyone else has in the past week say such a "neutral" initiative would give North Korea an opportunity to close the incident gracefully. Many delegates assume the seizure was simply a diversionary tactic in the war of nerves in Korea and that the Communists have learned all they want from the ship and its crew.

Furthermore, the U.S. delegation here has made it clear that the return of the crew and the ship—either together or separately—is an essential preliminary to any "second stage" invitation to North Korea to come to the Security Council for a wide-ranging debate on the deteriorating over-all Korean situation.

So long as the Pueblo crew is held hostage, the U.S. mission insists, no U.N. invitation is possible. Nor is the United States prepared for "prompt action" on release of the Pueblo to be delayed by a long wrangle in the Security Council over isuing that invitation and a waiting game over North Korean acceptance.

As the possible compromise, the release of the crew would come simultaneously with the U.N. invitation to North Korea.

Focus of Talks

The terms of such an invitation have been the main focus of negotiations this week among the 10 nonpermanent members of the Security Council.

Diplomats are impressed with the increasingly authoritative tone of Hungarian Ambassador Karoly Csatorday — the only Communist member of the group — about the North Korean position. They assume the Hungarian government is in direct contact with the North Korean capital of Pyongyang over the crisis.

Yesterday he told the other nine members of the nonpermanent group—meeting with Council President Agha Shahi—that although members of the 83-man crew of the Pueblo are being treated humanely, one had died from wounds suffered when North Korean naval units seized the ship. No other details were available.

The Defense Department said the report was unconfirmed, and there was no way of identifying any casualties among the captured men.

The report followed a White House statement that it had been advised the crew was being treated properly and the wounded were receiving medical care.

While the Americans claim the ship is as important as its crew, most observers here believe the U.S. would take return of the men — with a promise of progress toward return of the ship — as enough for simultaneously issuing North Korea an invitation to a Security Council debate.

The link between the invitation and the Pueblo would have to be established in a bargain between the United States and the Soviet Union.

No one here expects an embarassing public debate on the whys and wherefores of inviting North Korea.

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Dangerous 'Game' Unfolds on Korea

SAN FRANCISCO—The Korean crisis involves a trio of decision-making agonies. One is in Washington, in the American power-center; the second is in the Communist power-center at Moscow; the third is in Pyongyang itself, where the North Koreans have had to make a fateful decision. What happens finally will depend on the point at which the three intersect.

President Johnson and his advisers have been playing it cool, but how long will they be able to keep the American people cool? Moscow has been playing it stony-faced, but that, too, may vanish when they learn that Washington means business. Pyongyang has covered itself with a thick propaganda cloud, making it hard to separate its current exultation in a propaganda success with a graver long-range intent.

The danger lies in the chance that somewhere in this three-cornered game that nations play someone may assume the others are bluffing when they are in dead earnest. The fact is that it is a game that none of the three can win if it results in more shooting. The hope is that all three will know it before it is too late.

I shouldn't enjoy being in President Johnson's seat at this point. He has been careful not to say anything that would heat up the American passions. Everyone has known that governments today engage in electronic spying, and everyone has assumed that if the ships are far enough offshore they can get away with it. The Pueblo was far enough offshore, in international waters, and in that sense the seizure was a violation of international law, even though the ship was on an obvious intelligence mission. The American people consider the seizure an act of piracy, and any senator or President who runs afoul of this mood does so at his political peril.

It takes skillful leadership in Washington to stay cool and determined at the same time. One trusts there will be no break in this mood. At some point, of course, there must be the credible intent to act with power if the strategy of persuasion fails. The questions are what action, and how much power.

Washington has little pressure it can exert on Moscow to persuade its Korean ally except the threat of a showdown on the Soviet spy ships disguised as trawlers and fishing boats. If that fails, both Moscow and Pyongyang must ask themselves whether they want to run the risk of a repetition of the adventure they ended in Korea almost 15 years ago, this time with a strong South Korean army as an opponent, aided by American planes.

The Americans in turn must ask themselves whether they want to add a second messy war, even if limited to the air, to the current messy war in Vietnam. The prospect of this may cool off the ardor of some of the senators and congressmen and governors who have come out with "go-in-and-get-out-the-ship-and-men statements. It is interesting that several senators who are doves on Vietnam have called for strong action on Korea. But nothing will be lost with the lapse of some time for cooling and real negotiation. The ship and the men will still be there.

Obviously, the Vietnamese war complicates everything. If not for Vietnam, the American government would have more options and a freer hand. Yet it is also true that by handling himself skillfully on Korea—as he did in the Cyprus crisis and the Arab-Israeli war — President Johnson could gain added strength both at home and in world opinion.

The key to the crisis lies with North Korea's intent to play off its old ally, China, against its new ally, Russia, and thus get its share of leadership and glory in the Communist world. If so, the key to the solution will have to lie with Russia and its capacity to keep its ally within the bounds of nonfanatical action.

If the crisis gets resolved, and the men and ship are returned, we may later have the luxury of an inquest into what actually happened on the Pueblo at the moment of decision, how the ship was left unprotected, what options the commander had, why he made the choice he did. We are learning that at even this level of decision-making, in his lowly spot in command of a small intelligence craft, a young American had to make a choice on which not only his whole career and reputation depended, but the risks of war and peace for his country and the world.

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SIR: How can we, as the greatest nation in the world, sit by and let another country, big or small, "pirate away" one of our ships? What of the 80 plus men involved who have mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, etc., and are now sitting in some prison in a foreign hostile country? Are we, as citizens, not to be concerned over this situation? How can we expect any other peoples in the world to respect us or our rights if we show the world we are unwilling to protect even our own citizens and property. If we will not defend our own, why do we defend others?

Fred K. Hefferly, Jr.

Rockville, Md.

* * * *

SIR: Although the present actions of the Administration concerning the Pueblo crisis are painfully after the fact, they do seem as of this writing to constitute a firm and studied approach to the situation. In the light of this, Senator Mansfield's recent statement that we should be willing to pay the price of a false admission of guilt in order to obtain the crew's release injects nothing but a demoralizing and emasculating influence on an otherwise soundly developing position.

Lawrence W. Fagg.

Arlington, Va.

* * * *

SIR: Had we defeated the Communists in Korea, instead of negotiating with them, this incident of the USS Pueblo may never have come to be. Yet these same ignorant or universalistic thinkers among us who preach "get out of Vietnam" and "negotiate with the Communists" also tell us that we have no legal right there to begin with.

Well, I do not always agree with our government's foreign policy, but where, I ask, where were these hysteria creators when the Eisenhower administration formulated the SEATO pact which does legally commit us to the defense of Vietnam, Korea, and other Asian countries? Why didn't they come out in vocal opposition then?

John Edward Boehm.

Silver Spring, Md.

* * * *

SIR: Communists, whether Bolshevik, Viet Cong or Castroite, are calling the shots in the test of United States strength and moral determination. And anyone who doubts that this game is Moscow inspired, if not directed, simply has shunned reality.

David C. LeRoy.

Alexandria, Va.

* * * *

SIR: These men and this ship must be recovered, or we have lost what little remains of our "National Honor."

Mrs. M. B. Chichester.

Camp Springs, Md.

* * * *

SIR: Either through error or lack of care we are permitting the occurrence of incidents, maddening in their impact — such as the recent seizure of the Pueblo — to enrage us to the point where we shall inevitably widen the Asian commitment to the degree that we shall be ineffective when the Reds strike elsewhere.

I. M. G.

Silver Spring, Md.

* * * *

SIR: What does it take to wake the dovish politicians of this country? If seizing our ships is to be tolerated why are we trying to protect the free world?

H. A. E.

Alexandria, Va.

* * * *

SIR: The way to avoid a big war is to demonstrate to the world, friends and enemy alike, that the United States has teeth and will use them when necessary.

A. B. Pond.

WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR.

Ship Seizure and U.S. Options

Some thoughts, practical and theoretical, concerning the Pueblo:

1. It has become fashionable to observe that the credibility gap is such as to entitle John Doe to disbelieve the American government, and believe the government of North Korea. Thus for instance Murray Kempton of New York confesses, not alas unsadly, that he will accept the enemy's version, inasmuch as "North Korea hasn't lied to me lately." One day after this assertion, the North Koreans released the taped confession of the commander of the Pueblo.

"The crime committed by me and my men is entirely indelible," says the commander — sez North Korea — adding that he hopes "that we will be forgiven leniently." The commander went on to explain that a "lot of dollars would be offered to all crew members of my ship and particularly myself would be honored."

★

Since no such English was ever spoken by any American, even at Annapolis, we may submit the "confession" as a North Korean lie and hope, perhaps, that the American Left will acknowledge the possibility of a credibility gap where Communists are concerned.

2. Is it likely that the Pueblo was inside the 12-mile limit and therefore technically in violation of North Korea's security? No, because the equipment on our spy ship is designed for medium-range and long-distance work, not for getting close enough to the shoreline so that the bo'sun can spot the enemy from the crow's nest. Under the circumstances, it is inherently implausible that the 12-mile limit was violated.

However, 3, if the United States is confident of its case, why doesn't it demand that an international inspection committee immediately inspect the Pueblo's navigational log, assuming it has not been destroyed? By checking the radar notations, Loran lines (if there are such in that area), depth readings, and even the celestial sights, it can be inferred with virtual certainty whether the Pueblo was guilty.

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4. What do we have to fear from the detention of the boat, other than the blow to our pride? I do not diminish the importance of the latter merely by bringing up the possible importance of the former. Do we have, aboard the Pueblo, vital security information the removal of which by the enemy would seriously affect the national interest? Is that information to be found in written form, in which case one assumes it has been removed (and hopes that it will be translated into Korean by the same gentleman who wrote Commander Bucher's message); or, that which is most valuable, or equally valuable, is the refined electronic machinery aboard the Pueblo?

In the latter event, the United States Navy ought not to have deliberated overnight. A bombing raid should have gone over to Wonsan with orders to sink our own ship, which surely is our right to do; and if the marksmanship of our pilots is a little rusty and it turns out that we also sank the North Korean boats that brought in the Pueblo, why, you can't win them all.

5. On the business of asking everyone on the street, particularly Republican presidential candidates, "What would you do if you were President?" There are only two replies which are both prudent and wise. The first is that "such a thing wouldn't have happened if (insert name of the candidate) had been President." The second is that the capture of the Pueblo is evidence of an unsuccessful foreign policy. Two-bit countries just don't go about shanghaing the property of a major power if that major power is respected.

But on the other hand, it is inappropriate to suggest that you should begin achieving respect by a devastating retaliation against North Korea to teach the world that lesson now. That is a lesson one teaches gradually. To atomize North Korea now would be as unjust as for a perennially indulgent father suddenly to beat the daylights out of a son he had spoiled.

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And 6, isn't the Pueblo incident yet another indication of the failure of the policy of the counter-salient? The enemy strikes, we attempt to contain; but always on the battleground selected by the enemy, with his sure feel for our own weaknesses. What are we doing on such battlegrounds as we indisputably govern, or could govern? The economic battlefront? The psychological battlefront? What we are doing there is financing Communism by food and economic credits, and fawning on the Communist world in order to prove the purity of our intentions. Our intentions should be at least impure enough to protect the integrity of our fleet on international waters.

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JAN 31

STAR

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CARL T. ROWAN

Pueblo a Lesson in Small-Power Brinkmanship

The American people are going to have to take many trips to the brink, occasionally drinking from the bitter well of war.

That is the grim challenge and the ominous lesson of North Korea's hijacking of the USS Pueblo.

"Brinkmanship" became a dirty word during John Foster Dulles' tenure as secretary of state. It was regarded as recklessness on the part of the United States. But seven years of Democratic rule have shown that it is the Communists who decree that periodically U.S. nerves must be tested by rolling the world up to the edge of nuclear war.

In 1961 it was the threat of war over Berlin. We stood firm as we rebuilt our conventional military might, and Khrushchev backed down.

In 1962 it was the Cuban missile crisis. We hung tough, and Khrushchev caved in.

Vietnam has been a more subtle testing of the American will — and in terms of public reaction, far more successful from the Communists' standpoint than the earlier confrontations.

Now North Korea has goaded Uncle Sam with a bit of brinkmanship in the harsh Berlin-Cuban missiles tradition.

It would be calamitous, in my view, if we flinched in the face of North Korean brigandage any more than we flinched in earlier crises. Mere sanity dictates that diplomatic efforts be made to resolve such conflicts peacefully, but if the ultimate U.S. posture is one of weakness the wave of the future is clear: It will be an intensification of Communist pressures and affronts on every continent.

To understand why the North Koreans would challenge the United States so brashly, we need to look at the differences between the Pueblo incident and the Berlin and Cuban confrontations. In the latter incidents, the two great nuclear powers were in direct confrontations from the start. So the specter of nuclear holocaust loomed large at the very outset. And sanity prevailed.

North Korea gambled on the assumption that the United States would not conceivably retaliate with the use of even small tactical nuclear weapons. The Koreans surely assumed that the issue before the U.S. National Security Council would be whether to take military steps that might cause the reopening of the Korean conflict and involve another million or so American boys in a ground war in Asia.

The North Korean belief, shared by some Americans, was that U.S. public opinion would not support involvement in another Asian war. And, after our recent drastic steps to bolster the dollar, the Communists probably assumed that the U.S. economy would not support a second war.

The North Koreans also could assume that U.S. policymakers would have to consider the likelihood that the Chinese would become reinvolved in any renewed warfare in Korea.

And that is why little North Korea would dare to challenge the world's most powerful country.

It illustrates anew a point that Defense Secretary Robert McNamara has been trying to make: that the frightful power amassed in our nuclear arsenals is not always equal to our security needs. The capacity for overkill possessed by both the United States and the Soviet Union actually serves as a restraint, a diplomatic handicap, in cases like the Pueblo incident.

It forces sober reflection where angry, hasty reaction was once the rule. That is why the United Nations is turned to in almost forlorn hope.

And that is why even a great power will remain vulnerable to the pinpricks of brinkmanship, even from small, weak nations.

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Letters to the Editor

The Pueblo

SIR: I am concerned, as are other Americans, about the Pueblo incident. I am relieved that President Johnson has at the present time taken a stand of diplomacy. It would be unwise to take direct military action at this time due to our "hawkish" commitment in Vietnam.

We should first find out the facts of this dilemma. (I am tired of the word crisis.) I hope President Johnson stands on diplomacy and does not seek a military solution.

John Dove.

* * * *

SIR: Do you "Remember the Maine?" Or is that too far back for you?

You will remember that the twin rabble-rousers, William R. Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer, stampeded this nation into what Senator McCarthy recently called on TV "an unjust war." We know now 70 years later that it was then an unjust war but at the time we were told that the Spaniards had sunk the "Maine" even while it was known at the State Department and the White House of those days that the "Maine" was in Havana horbor against the wishes and protest of the Spanish authorities. The truth about the "Maine" was known 50 years later, but it was known in the State Department in 1898.

Possibly we will have to wait to the year 2000 before the facts about the "Pueblo" are known. Let us remember, however, that the risks are a thousand times more serious than those of the Spanish-American War. Let us keep our shirts on about the "Pueblo" as we did not about the "Maine."

Joseph I. Puente.

* * * *

SIR: These congressmen who shoot off their mouths are too much. They advocate war-like measures as in Vietnam and then later blast the policy and complain that we should never have gotten involved in the first place. It is easy to be patriotic. It is a lot more difficult to be sensible.

Fred Ballenger.

Bowie, Md.

* * * *

SIR: The North Korean shipnapping is not very promising, but in this grave situation we can see a hopeful sign: The United States has approached the United Nations at an early stage rather than resort to immediate and rash military action. It is heartening to note that the Administration still recognizes it as a handy organization to have around.

Now if only we could devote some attention to strengthening the United Nations between crises!

Gloria H. Parloff.

* * * *

SIR: After reading the statement of Senator Mike Mansfield that we should falsely admit that the Pueblo was in North Korean waters rather than to resort to force, one wonders if this distinguished senator is biologically equipped to survive in a crawling position?

Denise Bernier.

* * * *

SIR: I am troubled to think that some people in this country are so willing to issue an ultimatum to North Korea without first examining the facts of this incident.

It would be terrible to get ourselves involved in another conflict.

R. R. Summerbell.

Arlington, Va.

* * * *

SIR: It seems that the United States should have swallowed some pride and offered to repurchase the vessel and ransom its crew just as would be expected of a private individual or corporation. But merely continuing the inactivity after preliminary negotiations failed serves little toward enhancing our international image.

Peter H. Zassenhaus.

Bowie, Md.

* * * *

SIR: I have been horribly perturbed by the way we permit ourselves to be pushed around by a bunch of tenth-rate powers — now the North Koreans, who without even the slightest degree of anything except insolence have taken over one of our ships on the high seas.

Every real citizen should demand instant and complete action — whatever degree may be required for liberating that ship.

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JAN 31

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SHIP

WASHINGTON, JAN. 23 (REUTERS)-THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT NORTH KOREAN PATROL BOATS SURROUNDED A U.S. SHIP AND ARMED NORTH KOREANS BOARDED IT IN THE SEA OF JAPAN LAST NIGHT.

(MORE) DL/VJL 8: 51A

FIRST ADD WASHINGTON, SHIP X X X NIGHT.

IT SAID THE SHIP, IDENTIFIED AS THE NAVY INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION AUXILIARY SHIP U.S.S. PUEBLO, WAS BOARDED IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS SHORTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT EST.

(MORE) DL/VJL 8: 52A

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(MORE) DL/VJL 8: 55A

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30 JAN 68

PRESS

FBIS 47

RUMANIAN COMMENT ON PUEBLO

BUCHAREST AGERPRES INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH 0900 GMT 30 JAN 68 L

(TEXT) IN CONNECTION WITH DEVELOPMENTS FOLLOWING THE ACTION OF THE U.S. SPYSHIP PUEBLO OFF THE KOREAN COAST, THE 30 JANUARY SCINTEIA PUBLISHES A COMMENTARY SIGNED BY A. CIMPEANU, WHO WRITES: SPEAKING OUT AGAINST ANY MACHINATIONS AND AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS BY THE IMPERIALIST CIRCLES, PUBLIC OPINION IN RUMANIA IS CONDEMNING THIS DANGEROUS ACTION AIMED AT STRAINING THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST.

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THE FACT THAT THE PUEBLO IS NEITHER AN INCIDENTAL NOR ISOLATED CASE MAKES THINGS EVEN GRAVER. THE ACTION OF THE PUEBLO AND THE ATTEMPT TO USE IT WITH THE AIM OF STRAINING THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST, AROUSE DISAPPROVAL IN THE RANKS OF PEACE-LOVING PUBLIC OPINION. THE INTERESTS OF ALL PEOPLES MAKE IT IMPERATIVE THAT THIS INCIDENT BE TREATED WITH CALM AND A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY MAKE IT NECESSARY THAT THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY OF THE DPRK BE OBSERVED TO THE FULL AND THAT NO ACTION UNDER ANY FORM OF A NATURE OF ENCROACHING UPON ANY PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO DECIDE THEIR FATE BY THEMSELVES SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN. FACTS HAVE PROVED MANY TIMES THAT THE USE OF FORCE FOR SETTLING LITIGOUS ISSUES RESULTS ONLY IN THEIR AGGRAVATION.

CONDEMNING ANY ACTION OF THE MILITARIST CIRCLES ENCROACHING UPON INTERNATIONAL RULES, THE PROVOCATIVE ACTION AGAINST THE DPRK, (AS RECEIVED--ED) OUR COUNTRY CONSIDERS THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR ALL THE PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE PUEBLO ISSUE TO BE SETTLED WITH CALM, IN THE SPIRIT OF THE RULES GOVERNING INTERSTATE RELATIONS AND OF RESPECT FOR THEIR SOVEREIGN RIGHTS, AND IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE FAR EAST AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, SCINTEIA'S COMMENTATOR WRITES IN CONCLUSION.

30 JAN 1319Z DF/EAM

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JAN 68

PRESS

FBIS 43 (SEE 32 OF 29 JAN)

RUMANIAN DELEGATION IN DPRK

PYONGYANG KCNA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH 1117 GMT 30 JAN 68 B

(TEXT) PYONGYANG--A DELEGATION OF THE RUMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY ARRIVED IN PYONGYANG TODAY BY AIR FOR A VISIT TO OUR COUNTRY AT THE INVITATION OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE KOREAN WORKERS PARTY (KWP).

THE DELEGATION CONSISTS OF COMRADE GHEORGHE APOSTOL, MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE PERMANENT PRESIDIUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE RUMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, AND COMRADE VASILE VLAD, CANDIDATE MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE RUMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND DIRECTOR OF THE EXTERNAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE RUMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY. THE FORMER IS HEADING THE DELEGATION.

THE GUESTS WERE MET AT THE AIRPORT BY COMRADE KIM KWANG-HYOP, MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE AND ITS PRESIDIUM, AND SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE KWP; COMRADE PAK SONG-CHOL, MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF THE KWP CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND VICE PREMIER OF THE CABINET; CHON CHANG-CHOL, MEMBER OF THE KWP CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL

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FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS OF KOREA; KIM YONG-NAM, VICE DIRECTOR OF A DEPARTMENT OF THE WPK CENTRAL COMMITTEE; AND OTHER PERSONAGES CONCERNED.

AMBASSADOR NICOLAE POPA AND STAFF MEMBERS OF THE RUMANIAN EMBASSY IN PYONGYANG WERE ALSO PRESENT AT THE AIRPORT.

30 JAN 1240Z GKE/CT

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person is prohibited by law.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE PERMANENT PRESIDIUM OF THE CENTRAL

THE DELEGATION CONSISTS OF COMRADE GEORGHE APOSTOL, MEMBER OF

(KWP).

INVITATION OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE KOREAN WORKERS PARTY

ARRIVED IN PYONGYANG TODAY BY AIR FOR A VISIT TO OUR COUNTRY AT THE

(TEXT) PYONGYANG--A DELEGATION OF THE RUMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

PYONGYANG KCNA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH 1111 GMT 30 JAN 88 B

RUMANIAN DELEGATION IN DPRK

PRIS AT (SEE 25 TO 25 JAN)

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PRESS

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NIGHTLEAD PUEBLO--COUNCIL

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, JAN. 29 (REUTERS)--THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL CANCELLED TODAYØ'S SCHEDULED SESSION ON THE PUEBLO CRISIS TO GIVE DELEGATES MORE TIME FOR PRIVATE TALKS ON A POSSIBLE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM.

(MORE) MB/BSP 1:47P

FIRST ADD UNITED NATIONS NIGHTLEAD PUEBLO--COUNCIL

X X X X PROBLEM.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT AGHA SHAHI OF PAKISTAN ANNOUNCED THE DECISION AFTER MORNING-LONG DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER MEMBERS.

(MORE) MB/BSP 1:48P

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N. Korea Broke a Non-Rule on Spying

Press

By John Maffre
Washington Post Staff Writer

THE COUNTRY whose spies get caught off base usually has no option but to adopt a posture of pained silence, like the man with a hangover. He cannot cure his problem; he can only outlive it.

But last week the non-rules that hover around the art of spying, or gathering intelligence, were badly shaken when the North Koreans forced the USS Pueblo into their port of Wonsan.

No one was off base. By all accounts the Navy was snooping without trespassing on North Korea's sea or air or land space. It was not hurting the North Koreans or threatening them; it is highly unlikely that it was interfering with their communications because its job was to listen, not to obstruct.

Navy ships have done that off North Korea for years the way Russian trawlers and naval auxiliaries are doing it today off both coasts of the United States, an irritating presence but part of a warfare that is measurable only on a political thermometer. The two big powers have agreed tacitly to keep it that way. It is hardly a gentlemen's agreement, considering the nature of the activity that's involved, but it is certainly a working arrangement.

Now the North Koreans have upset the non-rules that the big powers lived with, for reasons best known to themselves (or to Peking—or even Moscow). Certainly this will bring about an urgent reappraisal of spy methods, not only by the United States but by every country engaged in spying.

The Naked Mighty

THE FACT is that the United States cannot bear to be without a sensitive, costly and indefatigable spy apparatus. Neither can Russia, France, Britain, West Germany or Israel. Neither can any country that is large enough to be reckoned as a major ally or enemy, large enough to feel naked unless it is reasonably well informed on what its big neighbors are up to.

Yet for all its vital importance, spying has one major and insuperable limitation. It can put together an amazing dossier on what the most secretive hostile power has in hand, but it can make only an educated guess — and perhaps a disastrously wrong one — at what the enemy intends to do with it.

Sometimes the powers get caught at it.

In the summer of 1960 an RB47 jet reconnaissance plane probed into the Barents Sea far north of Moscow and was shot down. Months later, President Kennedy's persuasion was needed to get the two officers released. The plane was apparently on a mission that could be called a feint, to smoke out the detection capability the Russians had going for them on the cold roof of the world. The fliers found out.

That year, too, the CIA got caught off base. Its U-2 plane flown by Gary Powers was picked off high over Russia by a SAM (surface-to-air missile) that people didn't think was all that accurate at such a height. It was.

The U-2 affair points up why the non-rules of the spying business hardly permit it to be called a gentlemen's agreement. The plane had been produced by Lockheed for the CIA in the mid-1950s and by 1956 it had made passes over Russia. The Russians knew about it. They couldn't do anything at the time because they lacked the technical means, but they were very annoyed and they protested privately in Washington.

Washington made some polite noises and perhaps the U-2 flights were held off for a while, but they were resumed. There may have been 20 or 30 or more, sometimes from Turkey, sometimes from Norway, and on some occasions the slower and lower Migs of the day scrambled in vain to catch the high intruder. Finally that SAM either nicked it or came close enough to cause a flameout.

American military snooping is technically elaborate and highly professional but, despite the best efforts of retiring Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, not entirely coordinated. It was he who established the Defense Intelligence Agency to bring about more cohesion and to cut down the interservice rivalry that has always been the curse of the military departments.

One technical expert who is occasionally summoned to work with DIA or one of its members remarked sadly that the services "infiltrated" their best men into DIA and that too many of them regard their own service as their primary interest, and perpetuate the rivalry.

A Super Snooper

BY ITS OWN CHOICE, the Central Intelligence Agency works no closer with the Defense apparatus than duty requires. The CIA also cherishes its separateness from the even more secretive National Security Agency, the vast code-breaking and analyzing plant completed ten years ago out at Ft. Meade, Md. The NSA is nominally under the Defense Secretary and its top slot is always held by an admiral or a general, but it generally operates according to rules known only to itself.

Unlike the CIA, a widely dispersed field agency which casts a broad net for all kinds of political, scientific and economic as well as military information, the various Defense establishments have a narrower scope.

The Army, through its Army Security Agency, naturally operates from more fixed positions than the other two services. As far as ASA's role in eavesdropping is concerned, its fixed

See SPY, Page B3, Column 4

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N. Korea Broke Non-Rule

SPY, From Page B1

installations allow it to mount enormously powerful radio and radar equipment that can scan a good 100 miles into an otherwise closed country, and the Army has some highly complex bases in Turkey, Pakistan, Iran and Taiwan as well as in continental Europe.

Host countries like Thailand, Pakistan and Turkey are very sensitive about such installations on their soil. Some of them allow so few foreign personnel in, particularly military men, that it's a problem keeping the plants operating round the clock.

The navy has always — at least until last week — enjoyed a particular advantage. It could slip up close to a country that was being observed without breaking international law, and sit there for almost indefinite periods, listening in on traffic, locating radar sites and gathering information that would permit their jamming. But in military terms, jamming is an ace to be used sparingly, because it immediately indicates to the other side that something big is in the wind, like shooting.

There are supposed to be about a dozen intelligence-type ships like the Pueblo in the Navy, and perhaps a slightly larger number of oceanographic vessels with an intelligence capability. Moreover, the combat vessels of the Navy have wide varieties of snooping capability.

Last year the unfortunate USS Liberty sailed too close to the Arab-Israeli war and got badly shot up by Israeli jets, losing 34 men killed and at least 75 wounded. The curious thing about the Liberty incident is that the Joint Chiefs had become worried that she was sailing too close to the combat zone and sent a message ordering her to move away, but somehow the message was not received.

At least the Pentagon has emerged to some extent from its age of innocence in that it has acknowledged what ships like the Pueblo are up to. One naval spokesman observed that "intelligence collection by naval vessels is a routine activity among major powers." That's a great advance over the laughable cover story first put out about the Liberty: that she was meandering around those waters using the moon as a passive reflector in communications. Or the first one in 1960 about the U-2, that it was a NASA weather plane that had unaccountably gone astray.

On the other side of the fence, the Russians have shown an energy and ingenuity in maritime snooping that no other nation can match. In fact, U.S. Navy experts constantly remind Congress of the march the Soviets are stealing on the Western navies.

There are reports, for example, that at least half a dozen Soviet electronic spy ships are prowling up and down the U.S. East Coast. They are supposed to be part of a force of over 40 such vessels, a number of them in the Mediterranean and the eastern Atlantic.

There are also literally hundreds of superbly equipped trawlers roaming the oceans. They catch a lot of fish and process them on the high seas with packing and refrigerating equipment that is the envy of other nations. But they also funnel back to Moscow a mosaic of maritime information, not all of it strictly military but including esoteric oceanographic data about the seas around Western countries.

The purely snooping ships are called AGI, or Auxiliary General Intelligence. They can be up to 200 feet long and equipped with the most up to date radio and radar equipment. Sometimes these ships sail right in between American and other NATO country ships in maneuvers in the Atlantic or the Mediterranean, coming so close that they are a hazard. Some years ago, a Soviet trawler moved in to photograph the submarine George Washington 60 miles north of Long Island, when it was firing dummy Polaris missiles, and almost collided with a Navy tug.

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WASHINGTON, JAN. 23 (REUTERS)-THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT NORTH KOREAN PATROL BOATS SURROUNDED A U.S. SHIP AND ARMED NORTH KOREANS BOARDED IT IN THE SEA OF JAPAN LAST NIGHT.

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NIGHTLEAD PUEBLO--COUNCIL

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JAN 68

PRESS

(130)

U R G E N T

(NEW DELHI)--A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NORTH KOREAN CONSULATE IN NEW DELHI SAYS THERE IS NO REASON WHY NORTH KOREA SHOULD NOT SWAP THE "PUEBLO" AND ITS CREW FOR NORTHENERS ARRESTED IN SOUTH KOREA.

THE SPOKESMAN WAS COMMENTING ON REPORTS THAT NORTH KOREA IS CONSIDERING EXCHANGING THE SHIP AND 83 CREWMEN FOR NORTHENERS CHARGED WITH PLOTTING TO KILL SOUTH KOREA'S PRESIDENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "I DON'T KNOW WHY WE SHOULD NOT AND COULD NOT DO THAT WHEN THE PUEBLO AND ITS CREW WERE CAPTURED WHILE ON ESPIONAGE WORK WITHIN OUR TERRITORIAL WATERS."

THE NORTH KOREAN CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW DELHI EARLIER DECLINED TO COMMENT ON REPORTS THAT A SWAP IS BEING CONSIDERED.

THE REPORTS QUOTED SOVIET SOURCES IN NEW CDLHI, WHERE PRIME MINISTER KOSYGIN AND HIS PARTY CURRENTLY ARE VISITING

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*****B U L L E T I N *****

U.S. BOAT SEIZURE

FOR YOUR INFORMATION B

PYONGYANG DOMESTIC SERVICE IN KOREAN AT 1040 GMT ON 23 JANUARY REPORTS IN AN OFF-SCHEDULE SPOT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT ON 23 JANUARY, NAVAL VESSELS OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S ARMY CAPTURED AN ARMED SPY BOAT OF THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSOR FORCE AND THE ENTIRE CREW. THE BOAT WAS CARRYING ON HOSTILE ACTIVITIES IN THE DPRK TERRITORIAL WATERS, THE REPORT SAYS. DETAILS AS AVAILABLE.

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JAN 68

CURRENT NEWS

RECEIVED FEB 08 1968 PRESS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1968

PERIODICALS

NEW YORK TIMES 24 January 1968 P1

North Koreans Seize a U.S. Ship With 83

By NEIL SHEEHAN
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 — North Korean patrol boats seized a United States Navy intelligence ship in Wonsan Bay shortly before last midnight and took the vessel and her 83 crew members into a North Korean port.

The Defense Department, reporting the incident, said today that the vessel had been in international waters. But in a Pyongyang radio broadcast today, North Korea asserted that the Pueblo had "intruded into the territorial waters of the republic and was carrying out hostile activities." The broadcast called the Pueblo "an armed spy boat of the United States imperialist aggressor force."

Secretary of State Dean Rusk called the seizure of the Pueblo "a matter of the utmost gravity." He said the United States was negotiating with North Korea "through the channels that are available to us to obtain the immediate release of the vessel and her crew."

The incident forced a sudden confrontation between the United States and an Asian Communist regime that has long been calling for diversionary assaults against "United States imperialism" to distract American energies from the war in Vietnam.

The Defense Department said four crewmen of the Pueblo had been wounded, one critically. One report said a crew member's leg had been blown off. The Pentagon declined to say how the men had been wounded.

The Pueblo carried 6 officers, 75 enlisted men and 2 civilians, whom the Defense Department identified as Navy civilian hydrographers performing oceanographic research.

Carrier Is Sent to Area

Military sources said that the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise and two destroyers were diverted toward Korea early in the day in response to the seizure. The Enterprise had just ended a visit in Sasebo, Japan, and was headed south toward the Gulf of Tonkin to join other carriers of the Seventh Fleet in staging air raids against North Vietnam when the carrier and her escorting

CONTINUED PAGE 2

WASHINGTON POST 24 January 1968 P1

Reds Edging Closer To Base at Khesanh

By Lee Lescaze
Washington Post Foreign Service

KHESANH, South Vietnam, Jan. 23 — North Vietnamese troops moved closer to the U.S. Marine base here Tuesday as Marines worked to improve their defenses and jets and artillery pounded the surrounding hills.

Col. David E. Lownds, commander of the 26th Marine Regiment, said the enemy has increased the pressure on his base perimeter since the battle began three days ago.

"I can't conclude anything else," Lownds replied, when asked if he believes the North Vietnamese are planning to attack the base that spills on the red dirt of this small highland plain around its lifeline — a 4000-foot airstrip.

No one here knows how many North Vietnamese are on the hills circling this plain, but all identified enemy dead have been from North Vietnam's 325C Division. At full strength the division would have about 11,000 men. There are more than 5000 Marines here and new Marine units arrived Tuesday.

Marine reconnaissance patrols have sighted or made contact with the enemy on all sides of this base. An aerial observer said that enemy soldiers were "walking all over the hills Sunday and Monday." Now, he added, "they are getting harder to spot."

[Marine patrols probing the hills around Khesanh killed 61 Communist troops Tuesday without suffering any casualties themselves, the U.S. Command said in Saigon.]

For the third straight day an American jet was shot down from the hills. Marine Maj. William E. Loftus, 31, of Chicago was hit as he made his fourth run over the ridge line 2000 yards north of the base.

"My motor was surging, running rough," at the time he pulled out of his strafing run, Loftus said.

He said he saw holes in his left wing and fuselage and tried to turn his A-4E Skyhawk for a landing on the airstrip. Unable to make the turn, Loftus ejected over the

CONTINUED PAGE 3

BALTIMORE SUN 24 January 1968 P2

CAMBODIA SAID TO SHUN INSPECTIONS

By PRAN SABHARWAL
[New Delhi Bureau of The Sun]

New Delhi, Jan. 23 — President Tito of Yugoslavia today passed the word to Indias Prime Minister Indira Gandhi that Cambodia's head of state, Norodom Sihanouk, does not want the International Control Commission expanded to supervise the borders of Cambodia and South Vietnam.

Marshal Tito was giving his assessment of the situation in Cambodia and talks he had with Sihanouk there. Tito told Mrs. Gandhi Cambodia wants to keep out of the war and that Sihanouk publicty asked for the effective functioning of the control commission only to deter American forces from exercising the right to hot pursuit.

Requested Expansion

After the Bowles mission two weeks ago Sihanouk agreed to ask for the expansion of the commission in return for American assurances to respect the territorial integrity of Cambodia.

Sihanouk feared that if the American forces were to cross the Cambodian borders the pro-Chinese elements in Cambodia would ask for Chinese intervention. Tito reported. There was fear that Giet Cong forces might also try to embroil Cambodia in the war he added.

Sources close to the talks added Tito said that in Phnom Penh it is admitted that Viet Cong use Cambodia as a sanctuary but the number is small.

Bowles Visit

Ambassador Chester Bowles, who went to Cambodia as President Johnson's special envoy,

CONTINUED PAGE 3

NEW YORK TIMES 24 January 1968 P1

RADIATION FOUND WHERE B-52 FELL

By JOHN W. FINNEY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23—Air Force search teams were reported today to have detected small amounts of radiation from some or all of the four hydrogen bombs missing after a B-52 bomber crashed on the ice off northwest Greenland.

After two days of hunting with dog sleds and helicopters, teams from the Thule Air Force Base in Greenland still had not found the unarmed thermonuclear weapons. But the detection of the radiation was taken as an encouraging sign that the bombs were scattered across the surface and had not plunged through the ice with parts of the bomber into about 800 feet of water.

If the bombs are still on the surface, recovery operations will be easier. It was first thought that the bombs had sunk to the bottom of North Star Bay, about seven miles southwest of the Thule base, raising the problem of underwater recovery operations through the sea ice.

The radiation suggested that some of the bombs might have broken apart in the impact of the crash and during the subsequent explosion in the bomber as it careened several hundred feet across the ice. If the bombs have split and spilled fissionable materials, this could present radiological health problems in cleaning up the radioactive debris from the explosion.

The radiation detected was that of alpha rays, given off by plutonium, a fassionable material used along with enriched uranium in the trigger of a hydrogen bomb.

If ingested or inhaled, plutonium is highly toxic. But in the uninhabited stretches of northwest Greenland, the plutonium is not expected to present a particular health hazard.

The B-52 bomber, on a routine airborne-alert flight from the air force base in Plattsburgh, N. Y., crashed Sunday afternoon while attempting to

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PREPARED BY THE AIR FORCE (SAF-AA) AS EXECUTIVE AGENT FOR THE DOD TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF KEY DEFENSE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL MATTERS WITHIN THEIR OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITIES. NO OTHER USE OF THIS PUBLICATION IS AUTHORIZED.

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N.KOREANS SEIZE A US SHIP...Continued

destroyers received orders to head for Korea.

There were also reports that the United States' Eighth Army in Korea and South Korean military forces had been placed on alert as a result of the Pueblo incident as well as the clash in Seoul on Sunday between South Korean policemen and a group of 31 armed North Korean infiltrators. The 31 were said to have planned to attack the presidential palace.

The Defense Department declined to confirm the alert reports, but alerts by American and South Korean forces are normal in such circumstances.

The State Department spokesman, Robert J. McCloskey, said that an "urgent request" for the release of the Pueblo and her crew had been sent to North Korea through the Soviet Union and that the matter would also be brought up in the evening with the Korean armistice commission at Panmunjom.

The commission, set up at the end of the Korean war, is the sole regular channel of direct communication between the United States and North Korea.

Highly Secret Devices Aboard

According to the Defense Department, the Pueblo is a 906-ton vessel that carries highly secret electronics equipment designed to intercept radar and other electronic signals and gather information for intelligence.

The department said the ship had been in international waters about 25 miles off the eastern coast of North Korea when she was boarded by armed North Korean sailors at 11:45 P.M.

The latitude and longitude given by the Pentagon as the ship's position at that time would have put her about 20 miles from the peninsula that forms the northern arm of Monsan Bay and about 30 miles from the Port of Monsan, where the Pueblo was taken.

Defense Department officials did not, however, give the position of the Pueblo when she was first accosted by a North Korean gunboat at 10 P.M., nearly two hours before she was boarded. Some military sources said the ship had been closer than 25 miles to the coast. But they said they believed the Pueblo had been outside the 12-mile limit that North Korea claims for its territorial waters.

Mr. McCloskey said he could state "categorically" that the Pueblo had remained outside the 12-mile limit at all times.

Military sources said that the North Koreans opened fire on the Pueblo at one point before boarding. But other officers said they were not certain the North Koreans had fired upon the Pueblo, and that the injuries of the crewmen might have been wounded on attempts to blow up the ship's secret electronics equipment.

The Defense Department declined to comment on either [illegible]rt.

The Pentagon said the Pueblo had not used any weapons during the incident. The ship carries only two .50-caliber machine guns as well as small arms for the officers and men.

President Johnson was awakened at 2 A.M. and notified of the incident by Walt W. Rostow, special Presidential assistant. Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and the Joint Chiefs of Staff were also notified.

George Christian, the Presidential press secretary, said Mr. Johnson discussed the seizure at his regular Tuesday strategy luncheon with Secretary McNamara, Secretary Rusk and other senior officials.

The Joint Chiefs also held a special meeting on the incident.

Military sources said the four North Korean patrol craft that surrounded the Pueblo were Soviet-made. Each was armed with four 25-mm, automatic antiaircraft guns.

The North Korean craft—one conventional patrol boat and three other raft of motor torpedo types — were capable of speeds of 28 to 40 knots, while the Pueblo had a top speed of 12.5 knots.

According to the Defense Department account, a North Korean patrol craft first approached the Pueblo at about 10 P.M. (noon Tuesday Korean time) and, with international flag signals, asked the Pueblo to identify herself.

When the Pueblo replied that she was an American ship, the North Korean ship answered, "Heave to or I will open fire on you," the Defense Department said. The Pueblo replied: "I am in international waters."

Accounts of Action Differ

At this point, some military sources said, the Pueblo's captain, Comdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, tried to move farther from the coast and the North Korean vessel opened fire, wounding at least one of the crew. The Pentagon account said only that at this point "the patrol boat circled the Pueblo."

About an hour later, the Pentagon said, three other patrol craft appeared and one ordered in international signals: "Follow in my wake. I have a pilot aboard."

The four patrol boats [illegible] in" on the Pueblo, the Pentagon said, "taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter." Two North Korean MIG fighter planes were also sighted by the Pueblo's crew circling off her starboard bow.

One patrol craft then began backing toward the bow of the Pueblo "with fenders rigged" and "an armed boarding party" on her bow, the Pentagon said. Fenders are ropes or rubber bumpers used by ships to avoid damaging each other when they pull alongside.

Ship Apparently Halted

Although the Defense Department did not say so, its account gives the impression at this point that the Pueblo was stationary.

At 11:45 P.M., the Pentagon said, the Pueblo radioed that she was being boarded, and at 12:10 she said she had been "requested" to follow the North Korean vessels into Wonsan and that "she had not used any weapons."

The final message from the Pueblo came at 12:32 A.M., the Defense Department said. It come to "all stop" and that her radio was "going off the air."

Military sources said Commander Bucher had radioed earlier that he was destroying his secret electronic equipment but it is unkown how much he succeeded in destroying. The equipment, if captured, would be valuable to North Korean and Soviet intelligence men.

The Pueblo had been in the area about two week on an electronics interception mission, the officials said. They added that other American intelligence-gathering ships had accomplished similar missions in the same area before without being bothered by the North Koreans.

This, with the manner in which the Pueblo was seized, has suggested to some military officials that the North Koreans had probably planned the seizure as part of a general effort to increase tension.

Last November Arthur J. Goldberg, the United States delegate to the United Nations, reported to the organization that there had been a drastic increase in North Korean violations of the 1953 armistic agreement.

The North Korean broadcast after the Pueblo incident tied it to the clash in Seoul on Sunday and asserted that the United States and South Korea had retaliated by firing "thousands of rounds of small arms and artillery fire into our area" of the demilitarized zone during the night and by sending "an armed spy vessel of the U.S. forces to intrude into the waters off Wonsan and perpetrate serious provocation."

"What a brazen-faced, desperate, deathbed kick this is!" the broadcast said. "Our naval vessels engaged in patrol duty on the spot captured the armed vessel of the U.S. imperialist aggressor force and the entire crew, resolutely defying the counterattack."

Mr. McCloskey, the State Department spokesman, said American diplomats were using any channels "which might be helpful" in trying to negotiate the release of the ship and her crew. He did not specify the channels. Japan, an ally of the United States, has representation in North Korea.

"I wish to re-emphasize the seriousness with which we view this flagrant North Korean action against the United States naval vessel on the high seas," he said.

RADIATION F[illegible]D WHERE B-52 F[illegible]L-Cont

make an emergency landing at Thule. Shortly before the crash, the seven-man crew bailed out after the bomber had apparently caught fire and filled with smoke. One of the crew members, the co-pilot, was killed.

The four thermonuclear weapons carried by the bomber were unarmed, preventing their detonation in the crash. Arming of a nuclear weapon requires a series of mechanical and electronic steps by at least two members of the crew. These steps would be taken only after a coded command signal, approved by the President, had been radioed to the bomber.

Although the possibility of a nuclear explosion was ruled out, the Air Force, if only for political and psychological reasons, was intent on recovering the weapons.

Plane Parts Are Found

Search operations were hampered by the darkness of the Arctic winter, subzero temperatures and swirling snow.

Helicopters were unable to land in the crash area because crews were unable to get bearings in the darkness and snow.

Surface search operations have thus far depended on dog-sled teams. They were reported clearing a small landing area for helicopters. Plans called for moving a small Arctic shack to the crash area to provide heat and light for the search teams.

Search teams were reported to have found the area where the bomber crashed and apparently exploded as its fuel went up in flames. Some pieces of the plane, such as an engine nacelle, have been discovered scattered across the ice.

The key question is whether beh bomber, either in the crash or in the subsequent fire, plunged or melted its way through the ice, which is six to nine feet thick, carrying the bombs with it. On this point, there was fragmentary and contradictory evidence.

Some large cracks in the ice have been observed in the crash area, but it is not clear whether the cracks were caused by the impact of the plane or were already in the shifting ice.

There were indications that the abandoned bomber did not crash head-on but skidded across the ice in a gentler landing. Skid marks 500 to 600 feet long were reported to have been observed.

One possibility was that the plane broke apart as it skidded across the ice and then exploded. In the heat of the explosion, some of the parts, includingthe bombs, may have fallen into the melting ice ad then been covered over as the ice refroze.

The search operations are under the command of Maj. Gen. Richard O. Hunziker, deputy chief of staff for material of the Strategic Air Command. General Hunziker flew to Thule yesterday from S.A.C. headquarters in Omaha.

Air Force officials said the B-52 bomber had not flown through the airspace of Greenland, which is owned by Denmark. Under the 1949 agreement giving the United States air base rights at Thule, United States planes carrying nuclear weapons are forbidden to fly over Danish territory.

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REDS EDGING CLOSER TO KHESANH...Continued

base from 1500 feet after making sure that his jet would not crash into the Marine position.

He parachuted unhurt inside the wire of the base and the plane smashed into the ridgeline he had been strafing.

"So this is the place," Loftus said. "I've seen it happen to others, finally it's me."

Digging Deeper

Although several Marine battalions are operating in the hills between Khesanh and the Laos border seven miles to the west, the emphasis here at the base is on defensive preparations.

"I tell the kids to dig a foot a day at least," Lownds said. "If the enemy doesn't attack for two more weeks I'll probably have three more strands of wire around us, but if you're asking am I ready, the answer is yes."

Enemy forces have isolated the base from Khesanh village four miles southwest and from the Special Forces camp at Laungvei. Three mixed Marine and South Vietnamese Civil Action platoons were evacuated from around Khesanh village Monday and civilians who wanted to escape were flown out after making their own way from the village to the base.

The evacuation served two military purposes, in addition to giving the civilians a way out of what promises to be heavy fighting. Allied forces were weak in the village and it was not considered defensible without reinforcement. Also, many of the shells fired at this base Sunday came from within the village.

Artillery Used

In addition to rockets and mortars, the enemy used artillery against this base Sunday, according to many Marines here. Officially, the U.S. Command does not report that the enemy has artillery it can bring to bear on the base.

The Sunday attack blew down many of the flimsy, tin-roofed buildings. Digging deeper bunkers and sand-bagging the walls of the buildings has become a major occupation, but much remains exposed and ramshackle.

Perhaps only Dakto is a worse battleground for American troops in Vietnam than Khesanh. The steep slopes are alternately covered with heavy forest and waist-high grass. Khesanh is isolated from other Marine posts and depends entirely on planes for its ammunition and other supplies.

At this time of year, the clouds close on the hilltops in late afternoon and the mist never lifts before midmorning. On bad days, the plain is covered with fog and drizzle that makes all air operations impossible.

Col. Lownds has orders to "defend the combat base and its ancillary facilities and check infiltration." Khesanh was originally established by the Marines to report on and block, at least partially, infiltration of North Vietnamese troops from Laos and from across the Demilitarized Zone.

Laotian Base

The 325C Division now threatening Khesanh is believed to have its base in Laos. The battle shaping up here is the first major action in this area since the battle for Hills 861 and 881, from April 24 to May 5 last year.

In that battle, the Marines suffered 138 dead and 397 wounded while reporting 554 enemy dead by body count and a probable kill of more than twice that figure.

Marine commanders were criticized in some quarters for their tactics in ordering charges up those hills. In a war where real estate is often gained only to be given up, critics asked, why charge a well-prepared enemy who holds the tops of hills?

The same question was asked after the bloody battle of the 173d Airborne on Hill 875 at Dakto last Thanksgiving.

Marines, however, have held on to the crest of 861 and the southern of the two 881 hills (the names designate the height of the hills in meters.)

It was the Marine unit on 861 that repulsed the most serious enemy probe of the present campaign. Around Khesanh, however, 861 and the 881s are three among many hills.

News agencies reported these other developments:

- About 200 South Vietnamese militiamen and a number of civilians evacuated the former district capital of Huonghoa, the second town whose garrison has been pulled back in the Khesanh area. The militia moved into the Special Forces camp at Langvei.

In three days of Communist attack on Huonghoa, about three miles from the Khesanh base, 18 South Vietnamese were killed. But Huonghoa's defenders claimed their fire and supporting air strikes killed 250 Communist soldiers.

- More than 300 troops of the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) moved north to the Hue-Phubai area, from which they can be airlifted by helicopter to Khesanh if needed. They are the first U.S. Army troops to be posted north of the Marine base at Danang.
- Farther south, other elements of the 1st Cavalry making a sweep of the coastal plains caught a Vietcong force in the open Tuesday and killed 128. Four Americans were killed, a U.S. military spokesman said.
- In Saigon, the South Vietnamese government said that allied forces last week killed 1842 Communist soldiers, a drop from the 2216 Communist dead reported the previous week. South Vietnamese losses were put at 223 killed, 750 wounded and 71 missing or captured.
- The American pacifist yacht, Phoenix sailed from Hong Kong after obtaining North Vietnamese permission to deliver its cargo of medical supplies to Haiphong. It previously had been refused permission to deliver its cargo, both by North and South Vietnam.
- In Hong Kong after his three-week tour of South Vietnam, Sen. Joseph Clark (D-Pa.) predicted: "It will be a stalemate in Vietnam, it will be Korea all over again."

WASHINGTON POST 22 January 1968 (24)

Harvard Head Cites 'Nonsense'

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Jan. 21 (AP)—President Nathan M. Pusey of Harvard University in his annual report today recalled an academic year of "intemperate" student behavior and displays of "belligerent nonsense" by some campus activists.

He said a visit to Harvard in 1966 by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara provoked "unprecedented intemperate student behavior" as students blocked McNamara's car and shouted insults at him.

In the fall of 1967, Pusey said, students maintained "something very like a state of siege for more than six hours" to prevent a job recruiter from Dow Chemical Co. from leaving an office where he was conducting job interviews.

Pusey said other American universities share with Harvard the difficult educational task of bringing back to reality the few students who, "safe within the sanctuary of an ordered society . . . play at begin revolutionaries and fancy themselves rising to positions of command atop the debris as the structures of society come crashing down."

CAMBODIA SAID TO SHUN INSPECTIONS...Cont'd

also called on the visiting statesman. His visit with Tito was described as a "courtesy call" by American Embassy sources.

Yugoslav sources said Tito told the American Ambassador what Sihanouk wants of the Americans. The source added that Tito explained the Cambodia stand and unwillingness to get embroiled in the war.

Tito maintained with Mrs. Gandhi that Americans are the aggressors in Indo-China and they should leave and allow the Vietnamese to decide their own fate. Both leaders considered the recent Hanoi statement on talks as a "positive gesture," official sources said.

India's Stand

Mrs. Gandhi explained India's stand on the request made by Cambodia for the effective functioning of the International Control Commission. She is reported to have turned down the United States offer of helicopters, as America is not a signatory to the 1954 Geneva Agreement on Cambodia.

She indicated to Tito that India will support investigation of any specific complaint lodged by Cambodia. The International Control Commission will accept help from signatories like Cambodia for expeditious investigations into the complaints, sources close to the talks said.

The sources said Sihanouk feared that if an expanded control commission were to establish that Communist forces do, indeed, take sanctuary in Cambodia, then Americans would immediately assert their rights of hot pursuit.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE
24 January 1968 P5

U. S. SHIRKING SPACE STUDY, EXPERT SAYS

BY RONALD KOTULAK

The United States may be abandoning scientific exploration of the planets to the Russians, Dr. William H. Pickering, director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Cal., said yesterday.

Congressional cutbacks in space spending have almost eliminated America's planetary space missions, said Dr. Pickering, whose laboratory planned and developed the Mariner, Ranger, and Surveyor planetary and moon missions.

Russian Studies Continue

While the United States has sidetracked planetary missions, the Russians have given every indication that they will keep up their heavy commitment to explore the solar system, Dr. Pickering said at a press conference at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Dr. Pickering, who is attending the third annual national conference on industrial research, was honored as "Man of the Year" by Industrial Research magazine. He received a plaque and $1,000.

"The United States has superiority in space exploration but the Congressional cutbacks may enable the Russians to get well ahead of us," Dr. Pickering said.

Because of the Viet Nam war and other federal programs the National Aeronautics and Space administration budget has been trimmed by nearly one billion dollars to 4.5 billion this fiscal year. The budget cuts affected the planetary exploration programs the most.

Surveyor 7, which recently made a soft-landing on the moon, is the last of the unmanned lunar missions. Congress eliminated from the fiscal 1968 budget 71 million dollars for two craft that would have landed on Mars in 1973 and 10 million dollars for a Mars orbiter scheduled for 1971.

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CHICAGO TRIBUNE
24 January 1968 P8

KOREAN TRUCE VIOLATIONS BY REDS MOUNTING

BY RUSSELL FREEBURG
(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

Washington, Jan. 23—A sharp increase in the scope and intensity of North Korean military activities and armed attacks has been overshadowed by the fighting in Viet Nam.

But the increase in the tempo of communist activities in Korea has American officials worried. Altho a "second front" seems unlikely, a growth in infiltration and guerrilla activity in Korea could have repercussions in Viet Nam, where the second largest foreign force compared to the United States is the 40,000 South Korean troops.

Capped by the alleged assassination mission of 31 armed North Korean infiltrators into Seoul Sunday night, the Korean truce violations by the Communists have increased dramatically in the last year and have raised serious doubts about North Korea's continued willingness to keep peace and stability in the area.

Tells Red Plan

The night raid Sunday, according to a North Korean army officer who was captured, was to charge the presidential mansion in Seoul and kill the South Korean president, Gen. Chung Hee Park.

The incidents in Korea have increased as the communist attempts to win in Viet Nam have bogged down. In the first 10 months of last year there were 543 North Korean truce violations, compared to 50 in all of 1966.

American officials said the incidents resulted from infiltration into South Korea from the north of armed teams for the purpose of setting ambushes, laying mines, and raiding positions near the demilitarized zone and engaging in other subversive activities in the interior of the Republic of [South] Korea [ROK].

Hostile Acts Increase

Infiltration has been by land and sea. A table follows that shows the stepped up activity:

	1965	1966	1967 (to Oct. 18)
Significant incidents			
DMZ area	42	37	423
Interior of ROK	17	13	120
Exchanges of fire			
DMZ area	23	19	117
Interior of ROK	6	11	95
North Koreans killed in ROK	4	43	224
North Koreans captured in ROK	51	19	50
United Nations personnel killed in ROK	21	35	122
United Nations personnel wounded in ROK	6	29	279
ROK national police and other civilians killed	19	4	22
ROK national police and other civilians wounded	13	5	53

The infiltration by sea began last June. American officials said that many armed bands from North Korea have landed in the southern part of South Korea. Once ashore, they have attempted unsuccessfully to organize guerrilla activity. More than 20 bands have been identified—with nearly all of the infiltrators captured or killed.

Assault Fleet Used

To carry out these operations, the North Koreans have assembled a fleet of very fast agent-team delivery boats about 75 to 85 feet in length, armed, and capable of carrying 30 to 40 men with equipment.

North Korean raiders and reconnaissance teams ranging from six to 60 in one case have entered South Korea by land, across the DMZ. There, in carefully planned and reconnoitered operations, they have attacked DMZ police forces and installations of the United Nations command located in the south half of the zone.

North Korean infiltrators have also laid mines in the roads of the United Nations command in the south half of the zone and in one case attacked a U.N. engineering unit engaged in road construction. In another instance, North Korean agents blew up two U. N. barracks.

Goldberg Raps Violations

Arthur J. Goldberg, United States ambassador to the United Nations, told the international body last fall that the North Koreans are violating both the letter and spirit of the armistice agreement of 1953. He said the North Koreans have shown no signs of wanting to cooperate in stopping their military activities.

Only on Monday, just hours before the Pueblo incident, the state department took note of the continued unruliness of the Communists in Korea by saying it deplored their actions.

Kim Dong Jo, South Korea's ambassador to Washington, charged that North Korea's seizure of the Pueblo and the raid on Seoul are part of a deliberate program to help North Viet Nam and the Viet Cong.

Kim called attention to a speech on Dec. 17 by North Korea's Premier Kim Il Song saying that North Korea is "doing everything in its power to support the brotherly Vietnamese people."

NEW YORK TIMES 24 January 1968 P2

Laos Is Said to Plan Electronic Line to Halt Foe

VIENTIANE, Laos, Jan. 23 (AP) — A high Laotian Government source said today that an electronic barrier would be installed across Laos to block the movement of North Vietnamese troops and supplies.

The source said the barrier would not involve constructions on the ground or the stationing of United States soldiers in Laos.

He implied that devices dropped from airplanes as well as complex airborne equipment would be used to check on the movement of North Vietnamese soldiers down the Ho Chi Minh trail in eastern Laos to South Vietnam.

Actually, the United States has long used electronic systems, such as infrared cameras, to photograph truck convoys at night. United States bombers have been called in to destroy these movements.

This was confirmed officially today in Bangkok, Thailand. Premier Thanom Kittikachorn said United States planes were bombing the Ho Chi Minh trail from bases in Thailand.

Mr. Thanom told reporters the trail was being "constantly bombed."

Military sources here said much of the bombing took place at night when large Communist truck convoys were on the move.

No U.S. Troop Commitment Envisioned, Source Says—Bombing Is Confirmed

The entire American covert effort in Laos poses a major political problem to Premier Souvanna Phouma's Government, which is pledged to neutrality under the Geneva accords of 1962.

As North Vietnam denies the obvious — that its troops are stationed in and crossing through Laos — the United States denies playing any major military role here.

Source of Embarrassment

However, it is known that the major portion of the entire air war in Laos is being carried out along the Ho Chi Minh trail by United States bombers. Laos has only a few jet trainers that have been converted into fighter-bombers. They also attack the trail.

It was first bekieved the infiltration line in Laos would be an extension of the fence-and-mine barrier across the northern border of South Vietnam. Reports from Washington have said that the barrier has already been extended into Laos.

The Government of Laos has been embarrassed by these reports. The high Government source said he had no information on any such extension.

The United States Embassy declined to discuss any aspect of the barrier.

United States sources said that despite official denials special American reconnaissance patrols from South Vietnam have been operating in Communist-controlled portions of Laos, seeking out truck and troop concentrations.

Information gathered by these patrols is radioed to South Vietnam, where bombers are then dispatched, these sources added. It was believed, however, that these reconnaissance patrols operate for only a short period in Laos.

The Laotian Government source said the stationing of United States troops in Laos would risk a major expansion of the war in this country.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE 24 January 1968 P6

Name Heroic Pilot for Medal of Honor

Washington, Jan. 23 (AP) — The Pentagon announced today the 24th medal of honor of the Viet Nam war will go to an air force pilot who flew a light, unarmed plane against an enemy force to save a South Vietnamese army battalion.

Capt. Hilliard A. Wilbanks, 34, a native of Cornelia, Ga., was killed last Feb. 24 in the action near Dalat, South Viet Nam.

Harold Brown, secretary of the air force, will present the medal to Wilbanks' widow, Rosemary A. Wilbanks of Glen Allan, Miss., in ceremonies tomorrow at the Pentagon.

Discovers Ambush Force

It will mark the second award of the medal of honor to an air force man for heroism in Viet Nam.

The citation credits Wilbanks with bravery while flying as a forward air controler providing reconnaissance for the South Vietnamese.

"He discovered a large hostile force poised to ambush the advancing South Vietnamese Rangers and, recognizing that support aircraft could not arrive in time, made repeated low passes in his unarmed, light aircraft and inflicted many casualties by firing his rifle out of the side window," a Pentagon statement said.

Wounded Pilot Crashes

"His daring tactics allowed the Rangers to withdraw from their exposed position," the Pentagon added. "During his final attack on the enemy forces, Capt. Wilbanks was mortally wounded and his bullet riddled aircraft crashed."

He was the son of Travis O'Neal Wilbanks and Ruby Lee Wilbanks of Cornelia, Ga.

NEW YORK NEWS
24 January 1968 P48

N.Y. Defense Pacts

New York City companies received a total of $11 million in government defense contracts last month, according to the New York City Department of Commerce and Industrial Development. Largest was received by Hazeltine Corp. for $5,151,480.

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WASHINGTON POST 24 January 1968 P11

65 Professors In Saigon Urge Peace Moves

From News Dispatches

SAIGON, Jan. 23—Sixty-five South Vietnamese professors called on "all the belligerent parties" today to extend the coming lunar new year cease-fire and start peace negotiations.

"The present conflict is seriously endangering the very existence of the Vietnamese people from both material and moral standpoints," the professors said in a statement. "Therefore every Vietnamese has the duty to contribute to the finding of a suitable way out for his fatherland . . .

"The complex differences between the official positions require subtle solutions that can only be reached after long deliberations and drawnout negotiations.

"In order to create a suitable atmosphere for such an open-hearted discussion between the belligerent parties, and above all to save thousands of people from death and suffering while a peaceful settlement is being sought, we appeal to all the belligerent parties to extend indefinitely the Tet cease-fire and to negotiate immediately a peaceful settlement."

The Tet standdown is scheduled to begin this weekend. The Vietcong say they will observe a seven-day cease-fire beginning Friday.

The Allies have announced they would observe a 36-hour cease-fire. This was originally scheduled to be 48 hours, but a government spokesman said last weekend this had been reduced because Saigon had learned the enemy would take advantage of the period to carry out supply missions.

The professors, most of whom are from the government-run University of Saigon, made no direct mention of the National Liberation Front in their statement. The NLF is the political arm of the Vietcong and the South Vietnamese government has stated repeatedly that it will not recognize it.

But the professors' appeal was directed to "all Vietnamese who have the responsibility in this land not to forfeit this precious opportunity . . to sit together, to recognize one another as Vietnamese in order to find a formula for peace based on the supreme interest of the nation."

On Jan. 10, a group of about a dozen South Vietnamese intellectuals released a six-page proposal calling for "the unification of the National Liberation front and the Republic of Vietnam." Apparently fearful of government reprisals, the drafters issued their statement anonymously.

South Vietnam's 17 Roman Catholic bishops have also issued a call for a start in negotiating an end to the war. The bishops said the Americans should stop bombing North Vietnam and that the North Vietnamese should stop infiltrating South Vietnam.

On the other side of the issue, a group of 300 Roman Catholic refugees who fled from North Vietnam more than a decade ago urged the Saigon government to reject any peace solutions initiated by the United States. They vowed to fight against any government coalition that included Communists.

WASHINGTON POST 24 January 1968 P11

Giap's Hand Seen in Reds' DMZ Buildup

New York Daily News

SAIGON, Jan. 23—Gen. William C. Westmoreland, the U.S. commander in Vietnam, believes that North Vietnamese Defense Minister Vo Nguyen Giap, architect of the fall of Dienbienphu, is personally masterminding the Communist buildup around the Demilitarized Zone, it was learned today.

At a top-level briefing, Westmoreland said that the tactical movement and deployment of Communist forces in and around the DMZ show Giap's influence. Giap planned the encirclement and capture of Dienbienphu from the French in May, 1964.

[In an interview with the National Broadcasting Co., Westmoreland said today that North Vietnam's 325C Division, believed poised for a major assault on the Marine base at Khesanh Valley, has "been preparing the battlefield."

["By this, I mean building underground shelters, cave dugouts, positions for mortars and perhaps even artillery, moving in supplies of ammunition and rice," Westmoreland said, describing this as "a preliminary step to an offensive."]

NEW YORK TIMES 24 January 1968 P4

Soviet Seeks to Rule the Seas, U.S. Naval Chief in Europe Says

By MARTIN ARNOLD

The Soviet Union is striving to become the leading maritime power in the world, the Commander in Chief of the United States Naval Forces in Europe asserted last night.

The commander, Adm. John S. McCain Jr., said that the Soviet effort "encompasses not only the military uses of the sea, but also those relating to world politics, economics, commerce and technology."

In a speech prepared for delivery to the Edward R. Murrow World Affairs Forum at the Overseas Press Club, Admiral McCain said that it was apparent that the Soviet Union was interested in the economic potential of the seas, "including mining the oceans' bottoms for raw material."

The merging of the various uses of the maritime might—militarily, economically and for propaganda—was the major theme of the admiral's speech and of an earlier news conference at the club.

Spread of Soviet Presence

He said in his speech that the political function of Soviet power was to make the Soviet presence felt throughout the world. "Modern Soviet trawlers, for instance," he said, spreading each day more widely over the high seas, symbolize for the rest of the world the progress that it is possible through Communism."

"The Soviets now have oceanographic and hydrgraphic research vessels conducting research in every ocean of the world," he added. "They have navy submarines studying our own coast. The race for mastery of the seas has not only these practical ramifications, but also the propaganda potential that the space race has had."

As for naval military power, the Soviet Union has about 350 submarines, 40 of them nuclear powered, he said. The figures come as "a complete and unwelcome surprise to most people with whom I discuss the subject," he added.

At the news conference earlier, he said that the United States had 105 submarines, 30 of them nuclear powered. However, the American ships are better constructed, maintained, equipped and manned, he said.

The balance of naval power is also in America's favor because the Soviet Union has no aircraft carriers, Admiral McCain said.

He said that he did not believe that recent Soviet naval activity in the Mediterranean "was a direct result of the Israel-Arab war," but rather of long-range Soviet planning and "ambition." He said that he thought the Soviet Navy was "in the area to stay."

He did not know, he said, whether the Soviet Union would attempt to take over the naval base at Mers-el-Kebir, in Western Algeria, but he added that "it's a magnificent base." The French are expected to complete their withdrawal from the base by the end of next month.

There are about 30 Soviet vessels in the Mediterranean including about two to four submarines, he said.

"This presence of naval power gives the Arab nations a feeling that they are getting support in their problems," he said.

WASHINGTON POST 24 January 1968 P14

U.S. Renews Relations With Greek Regime

Reuters

ATHENS, Greece, Jan. 23—The United States today resumed normal diplomatic relations with Greece. Observers here forecast other NATO allies would soon follow suit.

Ambassador Philips Talbot called on Greek Foreign Minister Panayotis Pipinelis and later told reporters they discussed world issues and "serious problems which do exist between the two countries."

It was the first official meeting between Talbot and a Greek Minister since Premier George Papadopoulos formed his government after an unsuccessful December counter-coup attempt by King Constantine.

[In Washington, State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey told reporters that the United States still recognized Constantine as chief of state.

[It was learned that U.S. officials made the King, now in self-imposed exile in Rome, "aware" of the intention to resume relations. There was no report on the King's attitude.

[McCloskey said the question of resuming a full program of military aid to Greece "remains under review." After army officers seized power last April, Washington suspended the shipment of major military items.]

There was no indication which country would be the next to restore formal diplomatic contact. In London Monday, informed sources said Britain was likely to resume full contacts soon.

The United States never formally broke relations with the military regime but it interrupted official contacts.

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BALTIMORE SUN
24 January 1968 P1

INDIA TO BUILD ATOM PLANTS WITHOUT AID

By ADAM CLYMER
[New Delhi Bureau of The Sun]

Tarapur, India, Jan. 23—India intends to build future nuclear power stations without foreign aid and thus avoid inspection requirements, a senior official said today.

Monindra N. Chakravarti, administrator of the Tarapur atomic power project which is to go into operation late this year, said the next project to be started would be constructed without foreign assistance, with India dipping into its own tight foreign exchange reserves for necessary imports.

That project, involving two 200-megawatt reactors at Kalpakkam in Madras state, is only beginning, with civil engineering work undertaken but no financing budgeted.

Second-Class Status

Chakarvarti's statement came as New Delhi continued to refuse comment on the draft nuclear non-proliferation treaty produced last week in Geneva by the United States and the Soviet Union. Indian spokesmen have complained in the past that the Soviet-American approach to inspections relegates other nations to second-class status without promising effective nuclear disarmament.

According to a Reuters report from Bonn, Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger said today the West German Government could not accept the United States-Soviet draft treaty.

[Improvements introduced at Geneva were not sufficient, Keisinger said, but West Germany hoped that an acceptable text could emerge from the present draft.]

The pact is expected to be a major topic of conversation later this week when Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin meets with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in New Delhi. Kosygin is scheduled to arrive in New Delhi Thursday for a visit of five or six days.

Chakravarti, an enthusiastic 64-year-old administrator, noted that inspection of this project, India's first, is to be conducted by the International Atomic Agency, although India has limited the nations from which inspectors may come.

Second Project Under Way

A second nuclear power project, under way with Canadian help in Rajasthan state and scheduled to go into operation by 1971, is also subject to an inspection agreement. That pact involves strictly Canadian supervision.

He said another reason for India's going it alone on the Kalpakkam project was to demonstrate its maturity in nuclear technology. He predicted that only a fifth of the cost would go into items which must be bought abroad.

His leadership of the Tarapur project, about 60 miles north of Bombay, reduced the foreign exchange component of its costs from an initial 67 per cent to about 58 per cent. But he conceded that this figure, along with the 20 per cent he estimated for Kalpakkam, has ignored the element of foreign exchange in some equipment manufactured in India.

Chakravarti announced that these savings would also enable him soon to advise the United States Agency for International Development that he would not need $2,000,00 or $3,000,000 of its original $80,000,000 loan. Some $5,000,000 of that has already been canceled as costs were cut.

He said the 380-megawatt project here on the Arabian Sea would go into operation on schedule in October. But other senior officials indicated a delay of a couple of months was likely.

Work has been slowed by an investigation of fine, one-sixteenth-inch cracks which have developed near the bottom of the huge, 6-inch-thick pressure shells which house the two reactors. These unexplained cracks are similar to those which have developed in a reactor under construction near Morristown, N.J., but are believed to be less serious.

However, loading of the enriched uranium has been delayed, and even if work were resumed immediately it would be at least a month before the loading is possible.

Nevertheless, the prompt work on the project, despite labor troubles and some equipment seized by Pakistan during the 1965 war, is generally credited to Chakravarti's efforts. He arranged customs and imports clearances and, through personal acquaintance with many ranking civil servants, has cut vast quantities of Indian red tape.

NEW YORK TIMES
24 January 1968 P15

DISORDER TERMED KOREAN REDS' AIM

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 — The North Korean Government has been calling on world Communists to create diversionary problems that would turn United States energies away from the war effort in Vietnam.

Figures made upublic by the State Department today indicated how this policy had been carried out by the regime in Pyongyang, the North Korean capital:

In 1967, nearly 600 incidents of violence, assaults and terror were reported across the armistice line between North and South Korea. The year before, when North Korea had not yet adopted the policy of diversionary tactics, the number of incidents was 50.

Infiltration into South Korea of armed agents by land and by sea has been causing mounting concern here. Measures to defend South Korea were understood to have been discussed by President Johnson and President Chung Hee Park in Australia last month, at the time of memorial services for the late Prime Minister Harold Holt.

United States analysts said North Korea had been striving to maintain a policy of "militant neutralism" in the world Communist movement, siding neither with Peking nor with Moscow in its definition of policies that Communist parties should follow.

This stance of ideological neutrality, adopted late in 1966, has been interpreted as an indirect gain for the Kremlin in its campaign to rally the Communist movement against Peking. Previously, the North Korean party been openly allied with the Chinese Communists.

When Mao Tse-tung's Cultural Revolution took hold in China, the North Korean party was one of the earliest to denounce Peking's policy.

Meanwhile, the Soviet leadership pursued a policy of courting North Korea, sending high-level trade and party delegations to Pyongyang.

A trade accord signed in Moscow in October last year provided for a "considerable increase" in Soviet assistance for the construction of factories and industrial complexes in North Korea.

On policy toward the United States, however, the North Koreans spoke far more militantly than the Russians, adopting the rhetoric of Cuba.

A recent statement of this attitude was given by Premier Kim Il Sung of North Korea Dec. 16:

"All the Socialist countries and anti-imperialists forces of the whole world should form the broadest possible anti-American united fromt, should thoroughly isolate United States imperialism and administer collective blows to it in all regions and on all fronts to which United States imperialism stretches its tentacles of aggression," he said.

The emphasis on a "united front" in North Korea's policy separates that regime from the Chinese Communists, who scorn the notion of unity, but the militancy is far in excess of what the Soviet and European Communist regimes proclaim, in the view of United States analysts here.

NEW YORK TIMES 24 January 1968 P18

Last Arab and Israeli Prisoners Of War in June Are Exchanged

By JAMES FERON
Special to The New York Times

QANTARA, the United Arab Republic, Jan. 23—The last of the prisoners captured in the Arab-Israeli war returned home today in final exchange across the Suez Canal.

Two motor launches flying Red Cross flags shuttled across the stilled waterway to exchange two Israeli—a pilot and a navy man—for 465 Egyptians, including five generals.

A total of 4,481 Egyptian prisoners captured in Sinai during the six-day was last June were returned, mostly in the past 10 days, for 11 Israelis.

The last to cross this morning, at his own request, was Maj. Gen. Sallah Yakut, the ranking Egyptian officer, who had been an artillery commander in Sinai.

The prisoners were the last to be repatriated since the war. A total of 574 Jordanians were sent home within weeks of the end of the conflict—and 335 Syrians were returned shortly afterwards. Israel received, in addition to the 11 from the United Arab Republic, two pilots from Iran, one from Syria and one from Lebanon.

Included in the exchange today was Abd el Hamid Mohammed Hassin, the Egyptian consul in Jordanian Jerusalem before the war. He was returned with his family. Mr. Hassin had spent the seven months in Atlit while his family remained in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Israeli officials have maintained silence on the reasons for the seven-month delay in exxchanging prisoners with the United Arab Republic, but the international committee of the Red Cross and Egyptian reports have said it was because of Israeli insistence on getting back political prisoners held in prison in Cairo.

There was no information available on whether such nonmilitary prisoners have been returned. The exchange today, the only one witnessed by newsmen, included only military prisoners and the Egyptian consul and his family.

The deadlock was said to have been broken by Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring last month as part of his efforts to help Israel and her Arab neighbors find a peace formula.

On Jan. 1 Israel returned 500 Egyptian prisons and this was followed by an announcement that a complete exchange had been arranged.

The rest of the Egyptian soldiers were returned in seven days of exchanges beginning Jan. 12.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE
24 January 1968 P6

China Identifies Yank It Says It Shot Down

HONG KONG, Jan. 23 [Reuters]—Radio Canton today said an American, Robert Smith, was captured after his plane was shot down in Kwangtung in China last August. It said Smith was captured by farmers as he tried to escape thru shrubbery after parachuting from his plane.

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EDITORIALS

CHICAGO TRIBUNE
24 JANUARY 1968

A DIRECT CHALLENGE FROM THE REDS

Seizure early yesterday by North Korean communist patrol vessels covered by MIG fighters of a lightly armed United States intelligence ship in international waters is an act of piracy and, in ordinary times, would amount to an act of war. The U. S. S. Pueblo, carrying only two .50 caliber machine guns, surrendered without firing and was escorted into the Red port of Wonsan.

The United States says that the vessel, with a crew of 83, was 25 miles offshore. The communist account is that it was in North Korean waters, bent on provocation. The Reds imply that it was on some mission related to the invasion of the South Korean capital of Seoul by 31 North Korean terrorists, disguised as South Korean civilians and soldiers. The group killed a Seoul police official and six civilians before it fled, leaving six infiltrators dead and one a prisoner. The prisoner said that the team hoped to kill President Chung Hee Park and some of his colleagues.

No American vessel had been seized on the high seas for more than 100 years before the present incident. Two questions arise. The first is what the United States government intends to do about it and what forcible action it intends to take to regain the ship and its crew. Supposedly the usual "stiff protest" is being formulated, and the good offices, if any, of the Soviet Union are being invoked, inasmuch as the United States has no diplomatic relations with communist North Korea.

It is predictable that neither course will be fruitful. Then what? Given the spinelessness of successive administrations since the days of President Truman in dealing with Korea, little, if any, effective action would seem in the making. The United States will have suffered humiliation at the hands of a country it could squash like a bug.

The second question is whether this outrageous communist act portends a major spread of hostilities on the Asiatic mainland. The United States is deeply committed in Viet Nam, where half a million ground troops are in a protracted war with the North Vietnamese Communists. The provocation from North Korea comes at a time when our forces are stretched thin.

If North Korea and Red China are contemplating some kind of pincers operation which would require us to resume fighting in Korea while we are tied down in Viet Nam, the squeeze would be on us. The purpose of such an adventure would be to relieve pressure on North Viet Nam and the Viet Cong guerrillas. The gamble could be taken only on a communist assumption that our government's record of pusillanimity in dealing with the Korean Communists would guarantee another round of what Gen. Douglas MacArthur called the "stalemated attrition" of the Korean war of 1950-53.

The indecisiveness of Washington 15 and more years ago is still catching up with us, and the ungainly chickens of that fainthearted policy are coming home to roost. We relied then, as our government hopes to do now with North Viet Nam, on the formula of "negotiations." While we were tied down at the conference table with the North Korean Reds, two-thirds of our total casualties in the Korean war were incurred.

We settled at length for an "armistice" which has never produced a peace and has led to innumerable communist violations on almost every day since. Must we now be forced to learn all over what MacArthur knew so well—that "there is no substitute for victory"? He prophesied that "by meeting naked force with appeasement we would not only perpetrate military disaster in Korea but would enable communism to make its bid for mastery of Asia." Events have proved that he could not have been more right.

WASHINGTON POST
24 JANUARY 1968

A Challenge to Candor . . .

The naval kidnaping of the USS Pueblo by four North Korean torpedo boats is almost too bizarre to be believed. We know that it was engaged in sophisticated electronic espionage, close to the North Korean coast, but in international waters, according to the United States account. But we don't know why it was unescorted, and under-armed, or why, even so, it did not even try to resist. Above all, we don't know why the North Koreans picked this moment for so provocative a piece of brigandage.

Not knowing these things, the soundest course is probably not to leap to conclusions, especially when we also don't know what efforts are being made to extricate the vessel and its 83-man crew. The Administration is entitled to a decent interval even when the outward evidence points to bungling on a major scale.

That much said, the Administration must realize that public tolerance in this country for the unexplained and the inexplicable is wearing thin, as is public patience with the growing evidence of a rising challenge to our security interests throughout the Asian world. A public which was lied to over the U-2, confused, if nothing else, by the Tonkin Gulf, and misled, to say the least, in the affair of another intelligence ship attacked by the Israelis last year, cannot be satisfied or reassured by the same old coverups.

This is all the more imperative, given the impact this incident is likely to have on nerves already frayed and positions already hardening. Those who see this country as over-extended in Asia, and around the world, will find further argument for withdrawal and retrenchment from confrontation with communism. Those who see in our policies of limited war a humiliation and a senseless inhibition will find further argument for a harder line and stiffer measures all across the board.

Already there is evidence of these tendencies in reaction to the seizure of the Pueblo. While some Senators cried out against a virtual act of war, others claimed vindication of their view that we are over-extended in a world policeman's role. As Communist pressures continue to pile up in Vietnam along the highlands and across the Demilitarized Zone, in neighboring Laos, and in Thailand, a new Korean crisis can only operate to accentuate the extremes.

It is important to keep our cool until we know more. But this makes it no less important that we be told more—and more that is believable—about so bizarre and unbelievable an incident.

WASHINGTON POST
24 JANUARY 1968

. . . Against a Grim Background

North Korea had been rumbling for months before its seizure of the USS Pueblo yesterday. Just a day earlier, a band of its soldiers was intercepted in Seoul, bound, apparently, to assassinate South Korea's President. Through 1967, raids across the Demilitarized Zone increased sharply and Pyongyang began dispatching spy and guerrilla teams south to stir up trouble and test popular support.

Behind this policy of provocation, it seems, is a marked shift left, an abandonment of North Korea's earlier willingness to hold the line and to count on time to ease American forces out of South Korea and create better prospects for "reunification." Perhaps North Korea was dismayed by economic progress in the South, or encouraged by political unrest there. Perhaps it figured to exploit American preoccupation with Vietnam, or to help Hanoi by cooking up a diversion. These disparate factors have a common direction: toward heating up Korea again.

Aspects of American policy, meanwhile, have had an opposite meaning. By depleting its two divisions in Korea for the sake of Vietnam, and by moving to harden defenses at Korea's DMZ, Washington has signalled an intention to keep Korea cool. But North Korea has publicly ignored the first signal and distorted the second. It has denounced the United States for allegedly sponsoring espionage and subversion in the North, and sounded ever shriller warnings of an imminent American invasion.

Whether the North Koreans have misread our signs or swallowed their own propaganda, they obviously are in a tough, expectant frame of mind. And if evidence is lacking of an intent to again invade the South, there can be little doubt that North Korea is ready to accept the risk of another war. In its own words, repeated through the winter, "danger of a new war breaking out at any time in Korea is growing as the days go by."

NEW YORK TIMES
24 JANUARY 1968

The Pueblo Incident

Remembering the Gulf of Tonkin, Americans would be wise to keep cool and not leap to conclusions—as some members of Congress have already done—about the North Korean capture of the American naval intelligence ship Pueblo yesterday.

Whatever the facts may prove to be, the incident does present, as the White House has observed, "a very serious situation." Such a situation must not be dealt with in passion, for it could lead to a sharp and dangerous new escalation of the Asian war.

If the ship was taken on the high seas, as American spokesmen assert, and not inside North Korean territorial waters, an act of piracy has been committed for which there must be prompt restitution. The State Department has moved expeditiously and properly to seek such restitution through diplomatic channels. The search for satisfaction by diplomatic means must be pursued to the limit.

But if the American vessel did penetrate North Korean waters—as American ships were tardily acknowledged to have penetrated waters claimed by North Vietnam prior to the Tonkin incidents—the United States Government must bear at least a share of the responsibility for what has happened. The Congress and the public ought to be sure of their facts before they judge.

In any case, somebody needs to explain to the American people why a lightly armed vessel, presumably crammed with sensitive intelligence equipment, was cruising unprotected in obviously hostile waters and, especially, why it was allowed to fall intact into hostile hands.

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER
20 JANUARY 1968 (24)

Defense Choice

As the new secretary of defense, Clark M. Clifford will be following one of the toughest acts in defense history. Clifford has been named to succeed Robert S. McNamara.

In the Pentagon hot seat, Clifford will need all the political savvy and Washington expertise he has picked up in nearly 20 years as an adviser to presidents and liaison man of sure-footed abilities.

He is regarded as more of a brain-trusting political strategist and philosopher than as a back-slapping political operator.

A former Navy officer and an emissary of President Johnson to Asian nations, including Vietnam, Clifford should be able to establish quick rapport with his military associates. His long experience in politics should be helpful in his relationship with Congress.

An important credential is that he is McNamara's choice as his successor. When confirmed, he will face the greatest challenge of his career and his success is of vital importance to the nation.

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NEW YORK TIMES 24 JANUARY 1968

The Road to De-escalation

Hanoi's harsh public response to President Johnson's stand on peace talks does nothing to advance hope for a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam war.

Judging by what has been said publicly on both sides, rejection by North Vietnam of Washington's latest approach was predictable. In the President's San Antonio speech last September and in other official statements the Administration had appeared to offer an unconditional bombing halt in return only for assurances that such a move would lead "promptly to productive discussions." But then Mr. Johnson appeared to tighten his terms in the State of the Union address when he insisted the other side "must not take advantage of our restraint as they have in the past," adding: "This nation simply cannot accept anything less without jeopardizing the lives of our men and our allies."

There have been indications, however, that in private contacts with Hanoi, Washington's position may not have been so inflexible as it has appeared in public. It has been reported in The Times of London that the President privately is no longer insisting on some form of de-escalation by North Vietnam. The British newspaper's Washington correspondent says that the phrase "not take advantage" of a bombing halt does not require the North Vietnamese to reduce their military infiltration but only that they not increase the level of men and supplies flowing into the South. In return, the United States reportedly has indicated a willingness not to send reinforcements of its own to South Vietnam.

If this report truly reflects the American position as it has been conveyed by secret emissaries to North Vietnam, Hanoi's intransigent response supports the theory that the North Vietnamese are not really interested in peace talks at this time but are deliberately stalling until after the Presidential election in the United States—which would be a very foolish thing for them to do.

Considering the record so far, there is something to be said for the recent charge by the Secretary General of the United Nations that both sides have been guilty of "simplistic" demands in their approach to negotiations. Mr. Thant repeated his long-standing plea that the United States, as the overwhelmingly superior power, take an essential first step by halting the bombing unconditionally. By such forthright action could the Johnson Administration dispel worldwide doubts about its aims and put Communist intentions to the test.

WALL STREET JOURNAL
24 JANUARY 1968

Republicans charged that the Johnson Administration has prolonged the Vietnam war by vacillation and lacks imagination to solve problems of housing and jobs at home. The accusations came from eight Senators and nine Congressmen in an hour-long reply on CBS to President Johnson's State of the Union Message. Former President Eisenhower, introducing the speakers, said new directions "are required to preserve and strengthen our free system."

WASHINGTON STAR
23 JANUARY 1968 (24)

Hanoi's Answer

The President, in his State of the Union address Wednesday night, took a somewhat harder line in discussing peace talks in Vietnam. He gave this version of the San Antonio formula, stated last September: (1) The bombing would stop if talks would take place promptly and with reasonable hopes they would be productive. (2) And the other side "must not" take advantage of our restraint as they have in the past.

What the President said Wednesday night, however, was not quite the same thing he said in San Antonio last September — and this remains true despite administration contentions to the contrary. The second point set forth in San Antonio was that "we would assume" that Hanoi would not take advantage of the bombing halt. There obviously is a difference between that and saying that Hanoi "must not" take such advantage.

Senator Robert Kennedy evidently thinks so, for he said, after the President's speech: "We have said publicly that we want negotiations but when we set the conditions we are asking for unconditional surrender." This, of course, is wild exaggeration if it was a reference to the two presidential speeches. For, while there was a difference between what Mr. Johnson said in September and what he said in January, neither of these speeches, nor any other statement of his, can fairly be classed as a call for unconditional surrender.

The latest word from Hanoi, however, seems to make any debate over what the President said or did not say largely academic. An article in Nhan Dan, the official North Vietnamese newspaper, elected to treat the Wednesday night statement as a reiteration of the San Antonio formula. Even so, the State of the Union comment was rejected out of hand as an "habitual trick" loaded with "insolent conditions." So why should anyone hope for meaningful negotiations, despite the December 29 statement that there "will" be talks if the bombing and all other acts of war against North Vietnam are halted?

Incidentally, a very strange footnote was appended to the Nhan Dan article. It said that 365,000 allied troops had been "wiped out" in 1967. Hanoi certainly knows that this is untrue. So why publish the statement? Is morale in North Vietnam so bad that it has to be reinforced by invention of the most extravagant sort?

KANSAS CITY STAR 19 JAN. (24)

WATCHING AND WAITING ON VIETNAM

THE administration has not yet checked out all the angles of Hanoi's recent peace hints. We must assume, therefore, that the possibility of a major and affirmative American reaction still exists. It is not beyond question that this reaction might come in connection with the January 30 observance of Tet, the lunar new year.

Late last year the South Vietnamese government announced it plans to observe a 48-hour cease-fire during Tet. In spite of the violent shattering of the January 1 ceasefire by the Communists, we have heard of no definite plans to call off the Tet moratorium. This we would assume that in the next 10 days or so, the lines of communication with Hanoi—such as they are—will be busy with communications of continued exploration.

Mr. Johnson said as much in his state-of-the-Union message the other night. He said also that he would report as soon as possible on the results of his explorations. It is imperative that he do so, whatever the results. For the purpose of healing the differences inside our nation and of convincing its critics abroad, the U. S. cannot repeat too many times its basic approach to Vietnam. Mr. Johnson said it again Wednesday night and in unmistakable terms: "Our goal is peace—and peace at the earliest possible moment."

In the same tones, he emphasized—and this, too, was necessary—that the U. S. is resolute and that aggression will not prevail. The point is by no means incompatible with the statement of our goal: Peace.

INDEED, once his exploration is concluded, once he is ready to report to the people, Mr. Johnson may have—if he chooses to take it—the opportunity to demonstrate once more that the two courses—the search for peace, the perseverance in war—are not incompatible. In so doing, he could take the initiative in a convincing American effort to bring the conflict to an honorable conclusion.

It will not be easy to make the decision. There is, moreover, a natural pitfall ahead: If Washington expects overly explicit answers to its questions, it may be disappointed and it may decide that the risk of a bombing pause—beyond the cease-fire of Tet—is too great. If it recognizes that in a complex and uneasy situation between warring nations, explicitness is not always possible in advance, it may decide that the risk should be taken.

The Star is among those who have suggested, in view of the recent statements from Hanoi by way of Paris, that such a risk may be necessary. On the very night of the President's report to the nation, there was a further attempt at clarification of the North Vietnamese position. And it seems to us that in a limited sense, Mr. Johnson's remarks further clarified the American position.

That being the case, the chess game continues, and the administration needs and properly is taking time to plan its next move. The decision, once made, could be the first step toward that "really true cease-fire" to which the President referred. Or it could erase the faint edge of hope that has appeared in recent days and plunge a troubled nation back into the reality of this frightening but necessary war. And Lyndon Johnson's ultimate report on the matter—promised Wednesday night—may be the most important of his hectic years in office.

NEW YORK NEWS
24 JANUARY 1968

LET'S JUST FORGET TET

Tet is Vietnamese for the lunar New Year's Day, Jan. 30—which both sides in the Vietnam war have planned to celebrate with a 48-hour cease-fire.

Our side cut it to 36 hours a day or two ago. We'd like to ask, though: Why any Tet cease-fire at all?

An estimated 40,000 Red North Vietnamese troops are in South Vietnam's two northern provinces and the Demilitarized Zone. Gen. William C. Westmoreland, in a TV interview shown Monday night, said he believes this foreshadows a big Red offensive.

Why Have Any Cease-Fire?

North Vietnam boss Ho Chi Minh, explained the U.S. field commander, could use a fat propaganda victory just now, and such an offensive might get it for him. Why not, then, junk any plans for a cease-fire at Tet time?

Of course, this hardboiled realism on our part would displease such doves as Sens. Bobby Kennedy and Willie Fulbright. But when American fighting men's lives are involved, it seems wise to give little if any weight to the views of the doves. Defeatism seldom conserves lives.

NEW YORK NEWS 24 JAN 1968

EFFECTS OF A NON-VICTORY

The Korean War paused some years ago, with Korea still divided between the Red north and the civilized south, and a lot of U.S. troops tied down in the south to deter another invasion from the north.

Korean Flareup

Now, northern Reds have sneaked into Seoul, South Korea's capital, intent on murdering President Park Chung Lee (though they didn't succeed), and a U.S. patrol boat has been grabbed by North Korean patrol vessels in the Sea of Japan.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk calls the latter incident "a matter of utmost gravity," while Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) says it amounted to an act of war.

Thus festers the open sore from which we suffer in Korea, where we neglected to win a war we could have won. Do we want to contract another such Asian sore by neglecting to win the Vietnam war?

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ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH 20 JAN (24)

Vietnamese Scandal

A *New York Times* dispatch from Saigon gives some significant and little-known facts about education in Vietnam, a subject that undoubtedly is downgraded in the face of more sensational events. But of all South Vietnam's unsolved social problems, none is likely to have more serious consequences than the failure of the South Vietnamese to educate their own people.

This is the view of many informed Vietnamese and Americans, and needless to say it does not conform to the rosy official line. It is believed that the children of the rural and urban poor, possibly 90 per cent of the population, now have less chance than ever before of getting an adequate education—and there is nothing a Vietnamese parent wants more for his children than education.

One can easily excuse this scandalous state of affairs by saying that education is one of the casualties of war. But is it? In the insecure countryside the Viet Cong guerrillas are earning the gratitude of the peasants by making a serious effort to teach children to read and write. And are they at the same time indoctrinating them in the principles of the class struggle? Of course, and in the long run it will pay the Viet Cong well.

It may be conceded that the Saigon regime has its problems. Teachers have been murdered or frightened away by the guerrillas. But even in secure areas not enough is done. It is said there are no classrooms for 70,000 elementary school pupils in Saigon itself. Only about half of Vietnamese children are even enrolled in the first grade, and of these only about a third complete the first three grades; one in 200 completes the equivalent of high school.

The truth appears to be that the Saigon regime does not really want to improve the situation. The rich do not pay their taxes so there is little money for education. The regime continues to conscript teachers on the plea of manpower needs, while tens of thousands of young men whose parents are well-to-do continue to evade the draft. Replacement teachers are in many cases inadequately trained women. The United States is spending 20 million dollars annually to help—building classrooms that in 10 per cent of the cases remain empty because there are no teachers and printing textbooks that pile up in warehouses.

The penalty of this shocking situation will come in the next few years, when the battered Vietnamese people try to pull themselves together. Will the Communists emerge as the educated and hence the ruling class? This may be the reward of their foresightedness, and the penalty of Saigon's venality.

SAN DIEGO UNION
17 JANUARY 1968 (24)

Feeling the Draft

The most encouraging news to come from the attorney general's office in recent weeks is the intelligence that prosecutions of persons who violate Selective Service laws is on the increase.

There were 942 convictions for violations of draft laws last year, an increase of 78 per cent over 1966.

The number of convictions still is a far cry from the total needed to solve the growing problem. But it may be the harbinger of a welcome trend.

It is high time that persons who deliberately seek to evade their patriotic responsibilities feel the strongest draft the full force of law can invoke

WASHINGTON NEWS 23 JAN[illegible]Y 1968 (24)

Missing Megatonage

SOME of our bombs are missing.

This time maybe four, maybe more, apparently are beneath the frigid waters of North Star Bay near the Thule Base in Greenland. They disappeared when the B-52 bomber that was carrying them cracked up.

The Defense Department again announces that the frightfully powerful hydrogen bombs were unarmed "so there is no danger of a nuclear explosion at the crash site."

We heard approximately the same thing when another bomber accident off Spain dumped one of these mass killers into the sea. Then the Pentagon couldn't do enough quickly enough to find and salvage it — maybe from the Russians.

That accident off Spain cost millions of dollars in salvage expense, and in damages of farmers in the area.

It is fervently to be hoped that in the new case there actually is no danger from this threatening megatonage under the sea.

As long as our bombers, carrying hydrogen weapons, must continue to patrol the skies as part of our defense against sneak attack, such accidents as those off Spain and over Greenland can be expected. That's a price we pay for our national security.

And yet, as we pay the price and take the risk, can anyone help but pray for the day when nuclear weapons everywhere shall be prohibited and peace, without patrolling bombers, reigns on this earth?

WASHINGTON NEWS
23 JANUARY 1968 (24)

Blowing It in Cambodia

A SCANT two weeks ago Prince Sihanouk and U.S. envoy Chester Bowles solemnly pledged to renew efforts to keep the flames of war out of Cambodia. Mr. Bowles said the U.S. had "no desire or intention" to violate Cambodian territory and would "do everything possible" to avoid intrusions. Sihanouk said he would prevent "all" violations, privately translated as communist violations.

Then the backsliding began. Because Russia growled at him, Sihanouk backtracked on his pledge to seek the strenghtening of the International Control Commission that is charged with spotting incursions. And Sihanouk's propaganda apparatus resumed hailing Cambodia's support to "the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. imperialism."

Meanwhile, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State William P. Bundy was interpreting the "agreement" as permitting "the right of self-defense," which by any other name would be "hot pursuit" of communist forces by American troops over the border.

"If the other side creates a situation where our self-defense arises," said Mr. Bundy, "we will have to weigh the situation very carefully."

Sure enough, last Thursday a mixed U.S.-South Vietnamese force, engaged in a firefight, crossed into Cambodia territory. Three Cambodians were reported killed, plus two Americans and four Vietnamese.

Within two weeks the "reciprocal respect, comprehension and good faith" the Sihanouk-Bowles communique purred about has been blown sky high.

Point One, it seems to us, is that if the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army were not using Cambodian territory as a rear area and sanctuary there would be no need to talk about hot pursuit or self-defense. Sihanouk's one-sided "neutrality" makes the situation worse.

Point Two is that Thursday's bloody incident undermines any confidence in the Johnson Administration's word that it would like to see a political settlement of the Cambodian border problem and that it seeks no wider battlefield. Of the 12,600 hamlets in South Vietnam, 3989 are regarded as Viet Cong-dominated. Why not attend to that business and stay out of Cambodia?

To crank up the ICC was regarded as a long-shot hope anyway, taking several months at best. It is touch and go, involving Britain and Russia, as Geneva Conference co-chairmen, and India, Poland and Canada as ICC members. With the latest blowup on the border, the odds just went up.

WASHINGTON STAR
23 JANUARY 1968 (24)

Toward Nuclear Sanity

The Soviet Union and the United States, in an extraordinary example of diplomatic bargaining, have finally filled in the blank to complete a draft treaty designed to halt the further spread of nuclear weapons. It took seven years of hard, and at times discouraging, negotiating, but in the final accounting, both sides realized that ideological differences were secondary to the lightening of the shadow of nuclear terror.

The first draft of the treaty was presented to the 17-nation disarmament conference in Geneva last August 28 in a form essentially the same as now — with one major exception. At that time Article III, the section dealing with international controls, was left blank. And until the wording of that key provision could be agreed upon, all the high sounding phrases of the treaty were virtually meaningless.

Now, despite the dangerously divisive issue of Vietnam, the two powers have agreed on the key section and have named the International Atomic Energy Agency as the body with over-all control over safeguards. In addition, changes have been made in the wording of the treaty designed to meet objections raised by such non-nuclear powers as Sweden, West Germany, Italy, Israel, Egypt, Japan and India.

But with the completion of Article III, even assuming that the major reservations of the nuclear have-nots have been met, the treaty still cannot fulfill the yearnings of mankind for freedom from the fear of nuclear devastation. So long as two of the world's five atomic powers—France and Mainland China—refuse to join the pact, the shadow will remain.

President Johnson has hailed the new draft as "a landmark in the effort of mankind to avoid nuclear disaster." And so it is; a landmark, not the achievement of a goal. The only true safeguard against the madness of nuclear war remains the ultimate sanity of the leaders whose fingers rest on the triggers of annihilation.

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BALTIMORE SUN
24 JANUARY 1968

Meanwhile . . .

There is of course Vietnam. And meanwhile, in Korea and off the coast of Korea, two incidents, following on a series of lesser incidents in recent weeks, suggest a new upsurge of Communist pushiness in that part of Southeast Asia. A terror group self-identified, in a bizarrely detailed statement by one of its captured members, as a mission to assassinate South Korean President Chung Lee Park, just fails of its purpose. And a United States ship described by Secretary Rusk as "a small United States naval vessel" and by North Korea as a "spy boat" is seized off the North Korean mainland.

Whether these occurrences are coordinated in any way within a general policy of terrorism and provocation, no one can say. Nor is it possible to guess the extent, if any, to which they fit into a general Southeast Asian pattern of Communist strategy. The one thing sure is that they serve as a sharp reminder that Vietnam is not the only place that has to be watched, in Asia and elsewhere, and not the only region where a deeper American involvement might suddenly be required.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE
24 JANUARY 1968

THE REVOLUTIONARIES AT HARVARD

Our guest editorial today is an excerpt from the annual report of President Nathan Pusey of Harvard university. He discusses his difficulties with student revolutionaries and says that bringing them back to reality presents "a new kind of challenge" to educators.

Harvard has been so tolerant of revolutionaries in recent years that President Pusey's criticism of them comes as a surprise. It is also surprising to find him describing the problem as a new one. Thomas Jefferson dealt with it in a letter to his grandson, warning him against disputes with students.

Jefferson advised his grandson to keep aloof from them "as you would from the infected subjects of yellow fever or pestilence. Consider yourself, when with them, as among the patients of Bedlam, needing medical care more than moral counsel. Be a listener only, keeping within yourself the habit of silence, especially on politics . . . no good can ever result from any attempts to set one of these fiery zealots to rights, either in fact or principle. They are determined as to the facts they will believe, and the opinions on which they will act. Get by them, therefore, as you would by an angry bull; it is not for a man of sense to dispute the road with such an animal."

We are indebted to the Washington Post editorial page for resurrecting this Jeffersonian wisdom and are glad to pass it on to President Pusey. Maybe it will help his admissions officers to screen out some of the crackbrained types.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE
24 JANUARY 1968

Guest Editorial

THE REVOLUTIONARIES AT HARVARD

President Nathan M. Pusey of Harvard university, in his annual report, recalled "the unprecedented intemperate student behavior" in 1966, when Harvard students blocked the car of Secretary of Defense McNamara, and "something very like a state of siege" in 1967, when students prevented a Dow Chemical company recruiter from leaving the office where he was interviewing. Mr. Pusey's report continues:

"I wish I might assure you we have now left this kind of difficulty behind, but it may well be we have not. Perhaps the most objectionable feature of such disturbances is the sheer wastage of time they occasion with no ascertainable offsetting educational or other kind of benefit. But, beyond that, I find it painful to accept in Harvard men either such behavior or the reasons now being given by some of their contemporaries in justification of it.

"I am not speaking here of students who are sincerely concerned about the war or who choose to participate in orderly protests for whatever reason, but rather only of a small group of overeager young in evidence on many campuses in recent years who feel they have a special calling to redeem society.

"One gets a picture of this kind from the publications they pass about among themselves on various campuses. For them campus conflicts such as the one we recently experienced are seen as so many battles in a great revolutionary war they hope and fondly imagine is already taking shape. Their arguments start with the assumption, which they invariably call their 'analysis,' that 'western society, and especially American society, is rotten thru and thru and that, this being so, all a sensible person can do is to wish for and to do whatever he can to hasten its demise.

"Moving on in their 'analysis,' they see our universities as having been taken over by the business and military establishments lock, stock, and barrel. In their eyes these institutions have, as a consequence, forfeited their right to respect and what they call 'legitimacy,' and have therefore become fair game. They should be brought low by violence or by any effective means; the sooner the better.

"For, they say, our universities are now devoted to 'the present and future oppression and domination of the people of the world — both in Viet Nam and in our urban ghettos.'

"Obviously they live in a world of fantasy. But let me quote a little more: 'The social order we are rebelling against [that is, ours in the United States] is totalitarian, manipulative, repressive, and antidemocratic.' One of them asks, for example, 'Who among us today would argue that America is not an imperialist power?' And they go on to say that 'within this order of domination, to respect and operate within the realm of bourgeois civil liberties is to remain enslaved.'

"Such is the kind of belligerent nonsense with which many college faculties and deans are now confronted thru some few students in many places who apparently have convinced themselves that, while making such statements, they are seeing the world whole and speaking truth. Safe within the sanctuary of an ordered society, dreaming of glory — Walter Mittys of the left (or are they left?), they play at being revolutionaries and fancy themselves rising to positions of command atop the debris as the structures of society come crashing down. Bringing students of this persuasion back to reality presents a new kind of challenge to education, to faculty certainly, but especially, and with painful immediacy, perhaps, to deans."

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER 18 JANUARY 1968 (24)

Air the Skipper's Transfer

There is enough confusion surrounding the transfer of Capt. Richard G. Alexander from command of the battleship New Jersey to warrant a public hearing by the House Armed Services Committee.

Alexander is the man who filed a strong statement of dissent against removal of Lt. Cmdr. Marcus A. Arnheiter as commander of the destroyer Vance. The removal was ordered by a board of four admirals. Alexander differed with their decision.

By strange coincidence, it was announced shortly after that Alexander, who had been designated to be skipper of the New Jersey when it is removed from the mothball fleet, instead would be assigned to a desk job in Boston.

When a wave of criticism of the Navy's poor judgment broke, Navy Secretary Paul R. Ignatius announced that Capt. Alexander had asked for the transfer.

Since competent Navy men do not prefer desk jobs to sea duty, the public's inference is that Alexander's loyalty has prompted him to get the Navy off the hook by permitting his superiors to quote him as asking for the transfer.

Rep. Joseph Y. Resnick, D-N.Y., is among those contending that Alexander was forced to request reassignment because he had offended the admirals. Resnick is pressing for the House hearing.

If Alexander is not being punished for expressing his view of the Arnheiter case, the Navy has nothing to fear from an open hearing. It should be pleased to have the public's curiosity about both cases satisfied.

As of now, the general belief is that the Navy infringed on Alexander's rights and then compounded the infringement by persuading a competent skipper to say that he had asked transfer from a battleship command to a desk job.

Resnick says this is a "barefaced fairy tale." The Navy says it is not. Only an airing will determine which is right. The House committee should get moving.

BALTIMORE SUN 24 JANUARY 1968

Diplomacy, One Kind

Since King Constantine's absence from Athens seems likely to have an indefinite duration, the United States has resumed "normal diplomatic contacts" with the effective Government of Greece. Such language is evoked by the circumstance that relations had never been actually broken: on the argument that its ambassador was accredited to the chief of state, meaning Constantine, the United States could refrain from a formal rupture of relations and still not signify approval of the junta that seized power in last April's coup. That's the way diplomacy works, up to a point.

In the decision now to recognize the junta, for that is what it amounts to, we see diplomacy working in another and less subtle way. The view that diplomatic recognition need not imply approval of a regime is permitted to prevail. It is permitted to prevail in this case because in Washington's opinion our own interests are served by having it prevail.

No one can observe with pleasure the character of the Athens junta, or applaud the manner in which the junta suppresses ordinary democratic freedoms, including those of speech and press. No, indeed. But the situation is awfully complicated. Greece is a member of NATO (as is also Turkey, which recognized the junta last Saturday). More than that, Greece is one of the keys to the waters of the eastern Mediterranean, where Russia is busily engaged in trying to establish itself as a power.

And so we find ourselves in alliance with yet one more regime we would really in our hearts prefer not to sit down to dinner with.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

24 JANUARY 1968

The U.S. boycott of the Greek regime was ended with the "resumption of normal diplomatic contacts." The decision, in abeyance since the military junta crushed King Constantine's December countercoup, was conveyed to the Greek government in Athens by U.S. Ambassador Phillips Talbot. The U.S., following Turkey, became the second NATO nation to give de facto recognition to the colonels running Greece, also an alliance member.

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FEATURES COLUMNISTS

NEW YORK TIMES, 24 January 1968

Perplexing Questions

Congressmen and the Pentagon Ask Why Ship Was Seized Without Fight

By WILLIAM BEECHER

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23—The capture of an American intelligence-gathering ship, assertedly on the high seas, by North Korean patrol boats gave rise today to a number of embarrassing questions both in Congress and the Pentagon.

Why were Jet fighters not rushed to the scene to protect the outgunned vessel? There were at least a dozen Air Force F-4 and F-105 fighter-bombers on hand in South Korea, 54 Air Force fighters in Japan and scores of Navy fighters aboard the nuclear aircraft carrier Enterprise, which was steaming from Japan toward Vietnam.

News Analysis

Why did the captain not try to immobilize or even scuttle the ship rather than perimt her seizure? Navy officers said that if the ship's rudder had been jammed and her anchor dropped, she would have been hard to tow the 25 miles from the scene of the encounter to the North Korean port of Wonsan. The ship could have been sunk with the explosives believed to have been on board.

Why did the shi papparently offer no resistance, at least enough to delay the harassers long enough for a decision to be made to send help and for that help to arrive? An official Pentagon statement said the ship, the Pueblo, had radioed back that she "had not used any weapons."

The Pueblo is believed to have carried only two 50-caliber machine guns and small arms, but it has long been a basic tenet among Navy officers not to surrender an armed vessel without a fight. The Pentagon had to reach back to the War of 1812 to remember the last time a Navy skipper had give up his ship without a fight. The ship was the Chesapeake. The skipper was subsequently court-martialed.

Four Reported Wounded

There was one report that four crewmen—out of a ship's complement of six officers, 75 enlisted men and two civilians—had been wounded in the incident, but it was unclear whether they had been injured in forcibly blocking a boarding party or during the destruction of some of the electronic intelligence equipment aboard.

Was the Pueblo being operated by the Navy for the super-secret National Security agency or for itself? The Pentagon would say officially only that the vessel was an "intelligence-collection auxiliary ship."

Authoritative sources insisted that unlike the Liberty, which was attacked by Israeli PT boats and aircraft off the Sinai Peninsula during the Middle Eastern war last June, the Pueblo was not directly associated with National Security Agency and was involved in naval intelligence work under the direct command of Pacific Fleet headquarters in Honolul.

There are said to be a "handful" of similar electronic intelligence ships that are operated for the Navy and a handful of other ships, such as the Liberty, operated by the Navy for National Security Agency.

Russians Keep Watch, Too

The Russians keep at least seven or eight similar electronic intelligence ships on station at any given time al over the world. They maintain a constant vigil in international waters of Holy Loch, Scotland; Rota, Spain, and Guam in the Pacific, where United States submarines equipped with Polaris missiles are based.

They also stay close to the United States Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean and the Seventh Fleet in the Pacific, trying to intercept operational orders, to determine the radio and radar frequencies most commonly used, and to btain other intelligence data.

Lack of Escort Questioned

Why did the Pueblo not carry heavier weapons or, lacking a capability for effective self-defense, why was a destroyer escort not maintained in the vicinity?

Pentagon sources said that since such vessels operated only in international waters, it had been assumed they would not be attacked. As for a warship escort, the Navy is sorely pressed to maintain required destroyers off Vietnam and in the other major fleets patrolling the world's oceans, the sources remarked, without the added requirement of providing an escort for electronic intelligence vessels.

There were some hints last night that the Pueblo may have belatedly requested help when she was about to be seized, but no explanation for why that help did not come. It was noted out by some Pentagon sources that American aircraft would have been within their rights to strafe and bomb the North Korean vessels, at least while they remained in international waters, once they had seized the Pueblo.

Defense Department planners suggest some of these and related questions may not be satisfactorily answered until a full-scale investigation has been held. A high-level inquiry is almost inevitable.

"With the Liberty and the Pueblo we've now experienced two unprovoked attacks in seven months," one angry Pentagon officer said. "Maybe now, instead of using practically defenseless merchant-type ships, we'll mount the special equipment aboard old destroyer picket ships that could at least defend themselves."

NEW YORK TIMES, 24 January 1968

U.S. and North Korean Statements on Ship Seizure

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23—Following are the text of a statement issued by the Defense Department today and the transcript of a Pyongyang radio broadcast on the seizure of an American ship by North Korea:

Pentagon Statement

The U.S.S. Pueblo, a Navy intelligence collection auxiliary ship, was surrounded by North Korean patrol boats and boarded by an armed party in international waters in the Sea of Japan shortly after midnight E.S.T. last night.

The U.S. Government acted immediately to establish contact with North Korea through the Soviet Union. When the Pueblo was boarded, its reported position was approximately 25 miles from mainland of North Korea.

The ship reported the boarding took place at 127 degrees 54.3 minutes east longitude, 39 degrees 25 minutes north latitude. The time was 11:45 P.M. E.S.T.

The ship's complement consists of 83, including 6 officers and 75 enlisted men and 2 civilians.

At approximately 10 P.M. E.S.T., a North Korean patrol boat approached the Pueblo. Using international signals, it requested the Pueblo's nationality. The Pueblo identified itself as a U.S. ship. Continuing to use flag signals, the patrol boat said, "Heave to or I will open fire on you." The Pueblo replied, "I am in international waters."

The patrol boat circled the Pueblo. Approximately one hour later, three additional patrol craft appeared. One of them ordered: "Follow in my wake. I have a pilot aboard."

The four ships closed in on the Pueblo, taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter. Two MIG aircraft were also sighted by the Pueblo circling off the starboard bow. The patrol craft began backing toward the bow of the Pueblo with fenders rigged. An armed boarding party was standing on the bow.

The Pueblo radioed at 11:45 P.M. that she was being boarded by North Koreans. At 12:20 A.M. E.S.T. today, the Pueblo reported that she had been requested to follow the North Korean ships into Wonsan and that she had not used any weapons.

The final message from the Pueblo was sent at 12:32 A.M. It reported that it had come to "all stop" and that it was "going off the air."

The Pueblo is designated the AGER-2. It is a modified auxiliary light cargo ship (AKL). The Pueblo is 179 feet long and 33 feet wide with a displacement of 906 tons. It has a 10.2-foot draft. Its maximum speed is 12.2 knots.

Pyongyang Broadcast

Today naval vessels of our people's army captured an armed spy boat of the U. S. imperialist aggressor force that intruded way into the territorial waters of the republic and was carrying out hostile activities. . .

The U. S. imperialists and the Park Chung Hee puppet clique of traitors, extremely dismayed and upset by activities of armed guerillas, which have been rapidly stepped up recently, have proclaimed a so-called "emergency mobilization order" throughout South Korea and are tyrannically suppressing the people by mobilizing hundreds of thousands of puppet military and police troops, while frenziedly intensifying provocative machinations along the military demarcation line and the east and west coasts.

The U.S. imperialists' aggressor force—beginning to go wild at the moment the fierce surprise attack was launched at the heart of Seoul, which left the U.S. imperialists and the Park Chung Hee puppet clique of traitors rounds of small arms and artillery fire into our area last night, while on the sea they sent an armed spy vessel of the U.S. forces to intrude into the waters off Wonsan and perpetrate serious provocation.

What a brazen-faced, desperate deathbed kick this is! Our naval vessels engaged in patrol duty on the spot captured the armed vessel of the U.S. imperialist aggressor force and the entire crew, resolutely defying the counterattack.

No matter how wild the U.S. imperialists and the Park Chung Hee puppet clique of traitors may get, they will be crushed in the face of the watertight defense by the heroic Korean People's Army. War clamoring and repressive machination they may resort to; they can never suppress the anti-U.S., anti-Government struggle of the patriotic South Korean people, which is forcefully spreading like a prairie fire.

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N.Y. TIMES 1/24/68

Korean Nationalist
Kim Il Sung

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23—In the political life of Premier Kim Il Sung of North Korea, whose navy seized a United States vessel today, two facts stand out: His love of Korea and his hatred of the Japanese.

His Communism has been nationalistic, but not isolationist. He has managed to keep his lines open to Moscow and Peking, no easy feat for the leader of a small country near the two giants of Communism.

Man In the News

He was trained in Communist political tactics by the Soviet Union, became an officer in its army while exiled from his native land and, on his return, ruled as Stalin did—through personality and purges in the party.

Although attacked as a "revisionist" by Red Guard posters in Communist China a year ago, Premier Kim has appeared to maintain a viable relationship with China. He signed a military assistence pact with the Peking in 1961.

Visited Moscow in 1959

He was last in the Soviet Union in 1959, as far as is publicly known. In the last year or so, he has sent his deputy to meetings in Moscow.

The son of a middlle-class schoolmaster, he fled North Korea with his parents to avoid persecution. Although born Kim Sung Chu, he took the name of a Korean who opposed the Japanese as early as 1985, when their annexation of Korea began.

One year of his absence from North Korea was spent in prison, his penalty for organizing anti-Japanese activity on Korea's northern borders.

He received his military and political training around 1940 in the Soviet city of Khabarovsk. He returned to North Korea in 1945 as a captain in the Soviet Army that accepted the surrender of the Japanese occupation forces.

Mr. Kim obtained control of the Communist party of Korea and, in 1946, absorbed the New Peoples' party, composed of Chinese-trained party leaders.

The first purge took place in the winter of 1946-47. The present regime was formed in 1948.

Mr. Kim, who holds the title of Secretary General of the Korean Workers' party as well as Premier, was born on April 15, 1912, in Mang Yong Dae. He was married in Manchuria during his years in exile. His wife, who bore him two sons, died in 1949.

In 1950 he married the daughter of the head of the former South Korean National Independence Federation, whose function was to bring left-wing national parties under Communist control.

NEW YORK NEWS, 24 Janu[illegible] 1968

'If North Korea Gets Away With This Piracy...

By JERRY GREENE

Washington, Jan. 23—North Korean piracy put President Johnson on the spot today in a test of national honor and prestige not matched since the Russians planted missiles in Cuba.

The President has got to get the patrol ship Pueblo and its crew of 83 out of Wonsan harbor fast, for if this outrage by a pipsqueak Communist nation is permitted to stand, an angry public will never forgive him, and a watching world, already skeptical over the restraint in Vietnam, will lose what respect may be left for what is purported to be the most potent military force in history.

CAPITOL STUFF

The ghost of Stephen Decatur strode the corridors of the Pentagon this afternoon, and a proud navy strained for action. The admirals and the captains and the commanders went grimly about their work. They were under wraps and couldn't talk aloud about the Pueblo, but there were audible references to Decatur, and not in jest.

Nothing Like It in 164 Years

Nothing like this grab of the Pueblo had happened to the navy in the 164 years since Decatur, then a young lieutenant, ran a light boat into the harbor of Tripoli to fire the frigate Philadelphia, captured by the Barbary pirates.

The 83 crew members of the Pueblo held by the Communists in Wonsan are infinitely more valuable than the ship, and concern for their fate doubtless figures in the diplomatic approach to this act of piracy, which Secretary of State Dean Rusk called "grave" and Sen. Richard Russell (D-Ga.) branded an "act of war."

Both Johnson and Defense Secretary Robert McNamara have repeatedly insisted that the U. S. armed might was wholly adequate with other crises, any crisis, beyond the commitment in Vietnam.

They'll never have a better chance to prove it. There is every indication that the Pueblo piracy was a coldly calculated move to discredit the U. S., to taunt this country and prove its impotence. There is even more evidence in the record that the North Korean Reds have nothing but contempt for anything but force.

14 Years of Insults and Defiance

We've been "negotiating" with those cats for 14½ years at the Panmunjom armistice table and got nothing for our pains but insults, snarls and defiance. We've had to keep two divisions of troops along the so-called demilitarized zone in Korea all these years to prevent another overrun of South Korea.

The Korean Communists have grown even bolder. In a radio broadcast 10 days ago, Pyongyang denounced the "heinous provacative designs" of the "U.S. imperialistic aggressors" to "arrest the revolutionary advance of the South Korean people . . . and to provoke a new war in Korea."

Less than three months ago, United Nations Ambassador Arthur Goldberg served up a tip on what might have been expected. He submitted to the Security Council a report from the UN Korean Command showing that "incidents" — breaches of the armistice by North Koreans — had increased from 50 in 1966 to 543 in the first 10 months of 1967.

Raids Cast Doubt on Good Faith

"These deliberate actions by North Korean armed personnel," the report said, "apart from causing serious casualties, constitute clear evidence of North Korea's continued unwillingness to keep faith with the armistice provisions and raise serious doubts about its attitude toward the promotion of peace and stability in the area."

North Korea spent most of last year sending groups of armed raiders, ranging in size from six to 60, "in carefully planned and reconnoitered operations" to attack UN forces and installations. A climax came in the infiltration of an assassination platoon into Seoul two days ago.

Up at the Capitol today there was the same old tired blather from the same senators who bewailed war's expansion, who cried 'I told you so' and 'What could you expect?'

Hell, there hasn't ever been any real peace in Korea since the armistice was signed in July 1953. A few hours on a night patrol in the demilitarized zone is proof enough of this fact to the kids who have to make them. Or sit in the bushes on a stakeout to catch Commie infiltrators who have a handful of guns and grenades.

I've done a stint of that with those youngsters and those demilitarized zone outposts don't offer the comforts of the Senate cloakrooms.

That 'Certain Restlessness'

Johnson said the other night he noticed a "certain restlessness" amongst the populace. That wasn't restlessness. That was pure and simple frustration. And much of it stems from fact that a lot of people are sick and tired of being kicked around — particularly by the Communists.

We've spent nearly 23 years trying to build bridges, to reason sweetly together and live in peace. And it would appear that the effort has been almost wholly on one side. In return, we've had the Berlin blockade, the Korean War, the Vietnam war, the Cuban missiles, and always pressure, threats and more pressure.

North Korea is only an extension of Red China with an assist from Russia. This two-bit country has 368,000 men in the armed forces; 500 Russian medium tanks, 3,000 artillery pieces larger than 80-mm., 460 combat aircraft, including a score of Mig-21s and 400 Mig-15 and Mig-17 types; two submarines and about 100 escorts and patrol boats. There is enough power to cause a rumble.

But if North Korea can get away with this piece of piracy, the U.S. might as well fold its tent in the Pacific and join the British Empire in oblivion.

WASHINGTON NEWS, 23 Jan 68 (24)

Widower Must Go to Vietnam

By MIKE MILLER
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

The Air Force insisted today it has done everything possible within policy bounds to help S/Sgt. John L. Wolfe, now preparing for a hitch in Vietnam.

"He's really a stalwart, the kind of man the Air Force wants to keep," a spokesman said of the sergeant's determination to remain in service rather than accept a hardship discharge and let the Pentagon get him a job as a civilian policeman.

S/Sgt. Wolfe, 35, is a widower and the father of five children — the oldest 10 and two of them pre-school age. The school-age children have been sent to an orphanage in Middletown, Ky., and the others to his mother's home in nearby Valley Station.

S/Sgt. Wolfe's situation generated complaints to the Air Force and phone offers of help to the departing airman from more than 20 states.

The Air Force gave this rundown of the special attention it gave S/Sgt. Wolfe, who has been assigned to Lackland Air Force Base, Tex., to make final preparations to go to Vietnam next month.

When his wife died two years ago, S/Sgt. Wolfe was offered a hardship discharge rather than having to serve out his enlistment. He decided to stay in, knowing he would some day have to go overseas.

S/Sgt. Wolfe's last overseas assignment ended in 1954. He is a military police sentry-dog handler, and the Air Force has a shortage of dog handlers in Vietnam.

"The decision made him liable to the normal selection procedures," said an Air Force spokesman.

S/Sgt. Wolfe's number came up for Vietnam, and he was granted a six-month delay to make arrangements for the children. He was again offered a hardship discharge; again he declined.

A spokesman said the Air Force decided that "it would not be in the best interests" of the Service to give preferential treatment to S/Sgt. Wolfe, who had made his own decision to remain in service.

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North Korean Seizure of U.S. Ship Sparks Diplomatic Flurry and Host of Speculations

WALL STREET JOURNAL
24 January 1968

By HENRY GEMMILL
Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON—A capital divided over one U.S. war in Asia found itself suddenly faced with the possibility it could have a second one on its hands yesterday.

The seizure of a U.S. Naval vessel, crammed with electronic intelligence-gathering gear, by North Korean patrol boats in the Sea of Japan produced a confusion of assessments. A rush of diplomatic activity was begun, aimed not only at keeping the incident from escalating but at resolving it rapidly.

"We want the boat and its crewmen back, in a hurry," was the official line. There was hope of achieving that, but there was also concern that it might not happen, and some men in responsible Washington posts were using the ugly word, "war."

Broad Spectrum of Speculation

The spectrum of speculation as to Communist intent and potential consequences was extremely broad, and at the extreme it included this possibility:

The Communist part of the world, displaying more unity than U.S. experts have deemed likely, is opening a "second front" in warfare against America. To the strains of the Vietnam war—which have been giving the "Yankee imperialists" troubles economically and politically if not so much militarily—the Reds aim to add a replay of the Korean war. And, because two fronts would keep the U.S. very busy, even in a military sense, it could permit the Reds to push hard somewhere else in the world, hoping to meet little resistance. If so, the agitated Middle East could be an obvious candidate for some venture of expanding Soviet penetration.

It must be emphasized, however, that such a grand conspiracy is cited as at the outskirts of speculation. "We aren't leaping to any such conclusion," said one informed official. Far less alarming interpretations can be offered.

At the milder end of the spectrum was the possibility that the capture of the U.S.S. Pueblo wasn't planned at all—not by world Communist chieftains, and not even by the North Korean government—but was merely an adventure of overzealous junior officers commanding piratical patrol boats.

Or the venture could have been planned, but with quite limited objectives. Presumably, the Reds could hand the ship and its crew back quickly, and still mark up a big gain: Their first good look at highly secret American detection equipment—which the U.S. uses on other "spy ships" in other parts of the world to eavesdrop on domestic radio communications of other lands.

Thus, officials talking yesterday believed it possible the whole crisis might seemingly be "resolved" even overnight, before their assessments could be printed. But a rapid "solution" of this particular incident will merely cause the temperature of concern here to drop a few degrees, rather than disappear. For the view is that this astonishing attack was in one sense no surprise at all, but part of a worrisome pattern to which no end is yet in sight.

Government Cites Violations

The Government, addicted as always to statistics, cited some to show how the North Koreans have been systematically stepping up violations of the uneasy peace that has prevailed since former President Eisenhower negotiated an armistice. During 1966 there were 37 "significant incidents" in the demilitarized zone, and 13 intrusions into South Korea proper. (A "significant incident" is usually one involving gunfire, often with casualties.) That level was irritating, rather than deeply disturbing. But then the 1967 figures, just through mid-October, jumped to 423 "significant incidents" in the DMZ and 120 violent incursions into South Korea, by sea and land.

Since October, the experts say, cold weather has as usual reduced somewhat the number of border violations, but by no means their boldness. Last Sunday night, South Korean police intercepted 31 armed North Koreans who had reached the capital and were headed for the Blue House—Seoul's equivalent of Washington's White House—with the mission of assassinating President Chung Hee Park.

And North Korean propaganda has built up, trying to create the impression that the South Korean population is rising in guerrilla warfare. North Korea has been striving, too, to portray U.S. forces in South Korea as the ones breaking the armistice; yesterday, North Korean radio broadcasts asserted Americans were firing "thousands of shells and bullets" across the demilitarized zone. And it claimed the U.S.S. Pueblo was taken while committing "a grave provocative act." But according to the Pentagon, the ship was 25 miles from the mainland, clearly beyond North Korea's 12-mile limit.

Number of Factors

Why are the North Koreans becoming increasingly aggressive? Experts have suspected a number of factors. For one thing, they've gotten itchy watching South Korea make considerable progress toward political stability and achieve more remarkable economic advances. For another, it's believed, international Communist solidarity has had at least some influence; North Korea has seen South Korea dispatch 48,000 men to help fight the Reds in Vietnam and to help their fellow Communists, the North Koreans may be aiming at stirring enough trouble to halt or reverse this flow of troops.

If, by conspiracy or blunder, events should actually produce another Korean war, there are enough soldiers and guns around to make it a rough one. At least some officials believe the West would have the advantage—"unless you count the Chinese into it again."

North Korea has a regular army of 340,000 men, plus reserves of 110,000. Its armor includes 500 Soviet-built medium tanks, 450 armored vehicles, about 3,000 artillery pieces, plus surface-to-air missiles. Its navy is small, with only 8,000 men, and includes two former Russian submarines, two coastal escorts, 10 minesweepers and 80 small patrol craft. Its air force, with 20,000 men, has 460 combat aircraft, including 40 IL28 jet bombers, 25 MIG21 jet fighters, which are relatively new and advanced aircraft, and around 400 MIG15 and MIG17 fighters, which are aging.

South Korea has an army of 500,000 still at home, including 10 tank battalions with U.S.-supplied Patton tanks, and 40 artillery battalions. Its navy has 17,000 men and one destroyer, three destroyer escorts and about 100 other ships of various size. Its air force has 25,000 men and 200 U.S.-built combat aircraft—including 30 new, small F5 tactical fighters, and 170 F86 jets left over from the Korean war.

Backing up the South Koreans are American forces, numbering around 50,000, stationed in that country.

Assuming success of U.S. efforts to obtain rapid release of the ship—and urgent diplomacy to this end was bieng conducted both via the Soviets and directly with North Koreans on the military armistice commission at Panmunjom—it seemed likely that the Pueblo affair could still remain a hot issue in Washington for some time. Indications were that both "doves" and "hawks" could be pressing suspicions about how it happened.

Sen Fulbright (D., Ark.) whose Foreign Affairs Committee is launching a study this week into the accuracy of the Administration's account of a 1964 North Vietnamese attack on U.S. Naval craft, seemed skeptical of the Pentagon's story about this North Korean incident. "I'm not ready to testify that everything they say is exactly according to the facts," he remarked. On the other side of the fence, Chairman Russell (D., Ga.) of the Senate Armed Services Committee was asking why the lightly armed U.S. vessel didn' undertake to defend itself in the two or three hours of the incident, or call for air support."

Washington Star 23 January 1968 (24)

SHIP CAPTURED BY REDS A NAVY VESSEL DOING A NAVY JOB

By ORR KELLY
Star Staff Writer

The intelligence gathering ship captured by North Korea today was a Navy ship with a Navy crew operating on a Navy mission.

Informed sources said the USS Pueblo was different from the USS Liberty which was attacked by Israeli forces off the Sinai Peninsula June 8.

Although the fact was never confirmed by the Pentagon, it was learned at that time that the Navy operated the Liberty as a floating electronic information-gathering vessel for the National Security Agency.

Pentagon sources declined to say just what the role of the Pueblo was off the North Korean shore, but there were indications that its assignment was to monitor North Korean radio traffic and radar operations for the Navy.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union have a number of electronic intelligence ships which perform a variety of roles.

The Soviet ships regularly operate near the bases for U.S. Polaris missile submarines and off Cape Kennedy, Fla. They also normally show up to keep an eye on U.S. and NATO manuevers.

In the Gulf of Tonkin, Soviet electronic trawlers shadow U.S. aircraft carriers, operating just at the horizon, beyond the carriers' destroyer screen. Their major purpose is presumed to be to act as an early warning system for North Vietnamese anti-aircraft crews.

The U.S. electronic ships are used to help keep track of Soviet missile and space launches. Operating a short distance off-shore, they also are capable of listening in on radio traffic and plotting the location and power of shore-based radar installations.

The Russians have 26 large trawlers and the United States has five converted merchant ships for electronic surveillance. In addition, both nations have sizable numbers of smaller ships such as the Pueblo which are used for this purpose. Combat ships also carry a large array of similar electronic equipment.

The United States claims only a 3-mile limit off her shores, which means that Soviet vessels can operate just outside the 3-mile limits and still be in international limits.

The Russians, North Koreans and a number of other nations claim a 12-mile territorial limit. Chile claims a 200-mile limit and has taken action against U.S. fishing boats operatng within that area.

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PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER 24 JANUARY 1968

Who Will Take Role Of Devil's Advocate?

By JOSEPH C. GOULDEN

WHEN the memoirs are finally printed, possibly there will be confirmation or refutation of the report that surfaced here over the weekend that Robert S. McNamara's last act as Secretary of Defense was to urge President Johnson to halt temporarily the bombing of North Vietnam to test whether Hanoi's latest "peace offer" was real.

Whatever the answer, no one at the Pentagon or White House is saying, and so Robert McNamara slides out of the decision-making hierarchy and into the presidency of the World Bank, his seven years and odd days at the top now grist for the historians and Republican campaign orators.

For those persons desiring a change in Mr. Johnson's war policies, the appointment of insider's-insider Clark M. Clifford is discomforting. Clifford's ballot has long been a hefty one in the weighed voting of Mr. Johnson's consensus process, and it will be even more so once he leaves the Telephone Cabinet and acquires official standing. Which is not to say Clark Clifford is a yes-man for Lyndon Johnson or for anyone else: What IS known is that Clifford helped shape existing war policies and thus is most unlikely now to stand up at his first National Security Council meeting and confess he's been wrong all along.

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WHO, then, shall assume McNamara's role as devil's advocate and argue back when the Joint Chiefs of Staff continue their incessant yaminering for authority to go after the dangerous targets forbidden them in the North?

One looks down the roster, in vain: Secretary of State Dean Rusk has his war-statement down so pat he can talk for 17 minutes and not vary by more than nine syllables what he said in August; his Asian man, William P. Bundy, sounds as hawkish these days as a Marine gunnery sergeant on the DMZ; Walt W. Rostow, of the White House, is a high priest of the political fundamentalism underlying our very presence in Vietnam and is comfortable in his cassock.

Nor are any outsiders in sight. Mr. Johnson has better relations with Prince Sihanouk than he does with Sen. J. William Fulbright; he makes a point of receiving back-from-Vietnam visitors, but they consist of Air Force colonels and such predictable savants as former Congressman Walter Judd. The White House gripes constantly about critical reporters in Vietnam—yet when these men come home they are not asked over for a chat about the reasons for their skepticism.

• • •

SINGER Eartha Kitt proved last week it is possible to penetrate the isolation of the White House; called there for a luncheon to talk about urban problems, she responded with a "State of the Union" message that was a more realistic depiction of that national mood than what Mr. Johnson gave Congress two days earlier.

And many of Mr. Johnson's Vietnam critics—including such nonhippies as Sen. George D. Aiken, of Vermont—feel the President would profit by a similar lecture on the moralities of the war, rather than continuing affirmations from the inner circle of the righteousness of the course it has chosen and down which it is leading all of us.

NEW YORK TIMES 24 JANUARY 1968

Rusk Doubts Inevitability Of a Conflict With China

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (AP) —Secretary of State Dean Rusk says there is no reason to believe that war between the United States and Communist China is inevitable, but that Peking's policies and nuclear development pose a real threat in the minds of other Asians.

In an interview with the Canadian monthly magazine Macleans, Mr. Rusk said the Chinese had given ample evidence in the past that "they are not reluctant to use direct military force across their borders."

The interview, appearing in the current issue of the magazine, occurred Nov. 6 but was not released by the State Department until Monday.

NEW YORK TIMES 24 JANUARY 1968

Cambridge, Mass.: The Kennedy Liberals at Harvard

By JAMES RESTON

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Jan. 23 —There is a serious political and philosophical argument going on here among the Kennedy liberals at Harvard. It is not the tiresome personal dispute that we are having in Washington between President Johnson and the Kennedy clan, but an argument among the Kennedy supporters about Presidential power, the condition of the nation and whether Senator Robert Kennedy of New York can do anything about these things.

The Kennedy-Johnson feud is, of course, very much in evidence here, and there is a group of Kennedy lovers and Johnson haters, some of them former aides to President Kennedy, who are using Harvard as a comfortable launching pad for blasting the Johnson Administration out of power. But the issue is much wider and deeper than that.

The Dilemma

The Kennedy liberals came out of the New Deal tradition and many of them have argued for years for a "strong Presidency." Now they find themselves in the awkward position of not liking what President Johnson has done with Presidential power in Vietnam, and yet not knowing quite how to limit his power in order to change the policies they oppose.

That is one part of the argument here. The liberals are now trying to restrain the very powers they wanted in the past, and don't know how to do it.

More important, they are as troubled about how to challenge President Johnson on political grounds as they are on how to challenge him on constitutional grounds.

For the present, the Kennedy supporters are not only arguing among themselves about whether Senator Robert Kennedy of New York should or should not challenge the President for the Democratic nomination, but are writing essays and lawyer's briefs on the topic, pro and con.

Arthur Schlesinger Jr., for example, has written a paper arguing that Senator Kennedy should take the risk. Theodore Sorensen has composed the argument against. Richard Neustadt has taken the position that Bobby is trapped for the present and will be effective again politically only when he accepts the fact of his dilemma.

Thus, President John F. Kennedy's two principal biographers differ on the correct role for President Kennedy's brother Robert to take, with Sorensen thinking the risk of running is too great and Schlesinger insisting that the risk of not running, which might cost him the support of the young, is even greater.

About the only thing they all agree on is that President Johnson should go down in history as a political accident between the two Kennedy Presidencies, and that Senator Kennedy should at least get ready to run, just in case President Johnson decides at the last minute not to seek reelection.

The Emotional Climate

What seems even clearer here than in Washington is that Senator Kennedy has not decided the question, which is why the barrage of arguments from here continues, and the feeling runs so deep on the subject that it has apparently divided the Kennedy supporters and even the Kennedy family.

It seems fairly clear that very few Kennedy supporters here think the Senator could take the nomination away from President Johnson, or that he could avoid splitting his party if he tried to do so. The argument for trying is more complicated. It is that the war in Vietnam and its consequences on the home front are morally wrong and should be opposed by people who believe they are wrong, as Robert Kennedy certainly does.

This is a serious argument because it is a conflict of principles. One principle is that a man should back his beliefs if he thinks the present policies will divide and weaken the nation at home and in its relations with the rest of the world. The other principle is that a man should support his party in a crisis, even if he disagrees with it, especially if there is a serious prospect that his opposition would shatter his party and might even open the way for a more hawkish Administration in Washington than the present.

The balance in this debate seems to run against an open challenge by Kennedy. This is not an argument here at Harvard between academic amateurs, but between men who have had a great deal of experience in Washington, know the political skill and constitutional power of the President, and therefore are trying to reconcile their wishes and the forces on the other side.

So far they have not been able to do so. They are the saddest and most frustrated participants on the American political scene today, but they are arguing about serious things and at least they agree that Kennedy should remain available until the California Presidential primary.

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NEWSWEEK, 29 January 1968 (24)

CLARK CLIFFORD FOR THE DEFENSE

For all the speculation that had swirled about Washington on the successor to outgoing Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, there was never much doubt that the choice open to the President was a narrow one, and that the four or five most likely men for the job were already in the government—or in any event not very far out of it. Against this background, and in keeping with the relatively austere stance he took earlier in his State of the Union Message (page 16) the President late last week called a mid-afternoon press conference and with no fanfare whatever announced his choice for the nation's next Secretary of Defense. To the surprise of few, the President's choice was Clark McAdams Clifford, 61, a skilled corporation lawyer who has served as a confidential defense and foreign-policy adviser to three Presidents—and who has long been on record as a staunch supporter of Administration policy on Vietnam.

By almost any standard, Clifford's appointment was a shrewd one, particularly in an election year when the President's war strategy is under attack (even if not seriously threatened) by dissenting doves amongst the Democrats and by hawks of varying degrees of ferocity in both parties.

Aplomb: At the White House, the nominee himself came forward to give his account of the negotiations that led to his appointment, and in the process displayed precisely the kind of aplomb that Mr. Johnson can put to good use.

Clifford began by asserting that when the President first mentioned the Defense post, he had assumed that the offer was in jest, "that maybe he might have been giving me that sly needle that perhaps all of you have encountered at some stage." In the beginning, he added, he told Mr. Johnson that he definitely was not a candidate for the job. There were some further talks over the next few weeks, Clifford continued, and then he was summoned to the White House and asked by the President if he would accept the appointment.

"I told him I would," said Clifford.

There then followed this exchange with reporters:

Q. Mr. Clifford, what made you change your mind . . .?

A. When the President of the United States looks you in the eye and says, "The time has come when as President I must ask you as a citizen of this country to assume this burden," I don't believe anyone can refuse that direct a request, worded in that manner.

Q. Would you characterize for us your views on Vietnam, your own personal feelings? Are you a hawk or a dove . . .?

A. . . . I am not conscious of falling under any of those ornithological divisions . . . You will have plenty of opportunity to reach some conclusions if the Senate confirms me . . .

But for all this deft footwork, there is no doubt whatever that Clark Clifford qualifies as a convinced, if moderate, hawk, and that this consideration, among others, assures his speedy and even enthusiastic confirmation on Capitol Hill.

'Wise Choice': This was clear from the moment word of the President's decision was announced. In the House, the Clifford appointment brought enthusiastic

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, 24 January 1968

CLIFFORD STEPS INTO NEW ROLE AS VETERAN CAPITAL POLICYMAKER

By Saville R. Davis
Staff correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

Washington

When the cold war was born, Clark Clifford was present and assisting. The question now is whether he can or will help to end it.

The story goes back to a few critical hours in 1947. President Truman had lost control of Congress in the midterm election, a few months before. The United States was trembling between trying to live peaceably with its erstwhile Soviet ally against Hitler — or whether to embark on a great test of strength between the Communist and Western worlds.

Suddenly the British pulled out of Greece when the Communists were trying to move in.

The British said they had to. They couldn't afford to stay. But they probably felt one of those instinctive urges that are the genius of British democracy. The Stalin empire seemed to be on the make. Either Britons pushed the United States into contesting it, or no one could.

A news photograph of the time shows Mr. Clifford standing with Harry S. Truman on the rear platform of a presidential special train. They were en route to Fulton, Mo. Mr. Winston Churchill was about to lay down the philosophy of challenge to communism and sound the trumpet.

Cold war reconsidered

In early March came the Truman Doctrine. It launched the world on 20 years of painful but generally successful cold war that now is, as Mr. Clifford takes over as Secretary of Defense, being reconsidered.

Mr. Clifford was then a rapidly rising adviser to Mr. Truman. He read a draft of an urgent message to Congress that came from the State Department. He and the President thought it was too weak. "Bluntness was in order," Mr. Clifford said.

Mr. Truman agreed on "explicit language" that would "impress on Congress and the American people the serious nature of the course that we were forced to take." Secretary of State George C. Marshall, when consulted, agreed.

Mr. Clifford wrote six drafts of his own, gradually replacing diplomatic language with straight Truman nouns and verbs, aimed at the American public. The President had been having trouble with delivering long and tedious sentences in his earlier messages to Congress. Mr. Clifford made this one sharp and direct, easy to put across.

Had the message been weak or diffuse, merely a diplomatic document, the Congress and the people might have failed to respond to this sudden, wrenching call to action. Instead, as the story is told by persons present at the time, the message was heard.

In Mr. Clifford's words, spoken by former President Truman, the United States staked its first action as a great world power on military support for peoples who "are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures."

The cold war was on.

'Insider's insider'

Today, most Americans had scarcely heard of Clark Clifford when he was made Secretary of Defense. He was "an insider's insider," in the phrase of the Washington Post. He came on television standing outside the White House, a quiet, self-possessed man, talking in elegant English with his phrases articulated syllable by syllable, immaculately dressed for "the day before yesterday" when double-breasted suits were in style.

He seemed unimpressed by the fuss being made over him and quite at home in the hectic White House atmosphere. His remarks were wry, droll, but always courtly. He could refer casually to the President as giving him that "sly needle that you all [the press] are acquainted with."

He seemed to the eye like anything but a successor to the lean, tense, detached, businesslike Robert S. McNamara, who had raised managerial efficiency to the highest known level and who permitted himself to be troubled by honest doubts.

Yet Mr. Clifford, as perceived by the unknowing eye, is a deception. Those who know him well, admirers and detractors alike, say that his bland appearance belies the lucid, analytical mind that is his distinguishing characteristic, applied as it is to a wide range of subjects from day-to-day politics and lawyers' business to public affairs, diplomacy, and managerial problems, especially those within the Pentagon. He is described as a "conservative liberal" Democrat, not unlike former Presidents Truman and Kennedy and President Johnson, whom he has intimately served.

Question raised

"But can a man with a lawyer's mentality become an administrator?" asks one of his critics. "We will have to see," said one of his close friends. "But don't forget that when Kennedy appointed a task force to support McNamara and tighten the administration of the Pentagon, he named five lawyers. Clifford was chief among them, and, of course, he was the man who had most to do with unifying the armed services under Truman."

There is another dimension, his personal acceptability to three very different presidents in their hours of trouble, that is less known. The Truman relationship is illustrated by the story of the message to Congress launching the Truman Doctrine. Mr. Clifford was a personal friend to John Fitzgerald Kennedy for 10 years before 1960. He fell easily into the role of equipping President-Elect Kennedy for the specifics that lay ahead of him.

His relation to Lyndon B. Johnson is also but little known. It is a long and detailed story. A few vignettes:

One of President Truman's real, personal pleasures was to assemble a few cronies on the presidential yacht Williamsburg and cruise down the Potomac on a Saturday for long, uninterrupted sessions of poker and talk. There were a few regulars, and each

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VETERAN CAPITAL POLICYMAKER

Continued

week the President would have Mr. Clifford invite some others. Often he would say "call Senator Johnson." For Mr. Truman, despite strong issues that separated them, got along easily with Lyndon Johnson the man.

When "the Johnson system" was developing, in his years in the Senate, he turned away from a fixed staff to do his work. Instead, he called three advisers to his house, usually once a month, for informal advice, from outside the "Johnson network" in the Senate itself. Mr. Clifford was one.

Hours of transition

A few days after the Kennedy assassination, in those critical hours of transition when Mr. Johnson was reaching for command of the situation quickly and incisively, he called in the traditional expert in the inner mechanics of the White House. "Clark," he said to Mr. Clifford, "you've become the expert in transition."

The two men talked into the night for five hours. In the next month Mr. Clifford was rarely more than a few minutes away.

The question before Washington today is whether Mr. Clifford will chiefly be an echo of President Johnson's own voice, in the critical "war-council" discussions with Secretary of State Dean Rusk, or a voice of his own. And if the latter, what voice will it be? Is he a crony or an authentic and independent adviser?

Washington is bemused by the friendly reception to his appointment from Sen. J. William Fulbright, chief of the dissenters on the Vietnam war. Mr. Clifford has "an open mind," Senator Fulbright says. He is "capable of reevaluating our policies." The two men are fellow golfers and are said to have known each other personally for two decades. They get on well.

To an inquirer, Senator Fulbright said, "Clifford is a man with whom you can exchange views."

What does this mean, about a man who is commonly called a hawk, and perchance more hawkish than Secretary Rusk?

A man who knew the young Clifford, when he was 40 years old and serving President Truman, said: "Clark is flexible but not elastic. Whenever he makes up his mind about something, he fights for it up to the last ditch but one. He changes sides only after he has failed to convince the boss [his term for Mr. Truman] that he is right."

Qualities assessed

A friend of Mr. Clifford today says: "He is both accommodating and unyielding. He is tough as well as polite."

A good guess would seem to be that Mr. Clifford is able to differ with men of strong mind, like Messrs. Johnson and Fulbright, as well as to agree with them, without personal antagonism.

His record as adviser, as far as it can be ferreted out, shows many cases of recommending both strong and controversial actions, to presidents in need of ways out of serious trouble. It would seem that he has been able to do this, and pull back if overruled, without damage to his personal relationship with the President, and without forfeiting respect for his views.

Those who quickly brand him as a hawk —he said, of course, that he rejects these "ornothological" ratings—may not have considered that Mr. Clifford has been a leading Johnson adviser in the recent period when President Johnson has been looking out beyond the cold war. No one seems to know what his advice was, when Mr. Johnson told the world a year ago that "the time has come to end the cold war." Nor does anyone seem sure of the precise route that Mr. Clifford would recommend toward that end, except that he has backed the

CLIFFORD FOR THE DEFENSE

Continued

approval from House Armed Services Committee Chairman Mendel Rivers, a hawk. He said: "The defense of the nation will be in good hands." This view was echoed in the Senate by Republican John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky, a dove, as well as by Stuart Symington, whom Clifford supported for the Democratic nomination against John F. Kennedy in 1960. "He's a very good man," said Symington, recalling Clifford's major role in drafting the National Security Act of 1947 for Harry S. Truman, and his service as a defense and security adviser to both Kennedy and Mr. Johnson.

There were others, mostly doves, who professed themselves appalled at the nomination. Perhaps the most vehement of the critics was one of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's confidants. "It's scandalous," he said. "As long as he's choosing close friends, why not appoint Zephyr Wright?" (Mrs. Wright is the Johnson family cook at the White House.) Whether this represented Kennedy's personal view was problematical, though it is no secret that Bobby seldom got along with Clifford when the latter was advising JFK. Sen. J. William Fulbright said Clifford "certainly has great qualifications," but added that the appointment came as "a really great surprise."

But the fact is that whatever controversy Clifford's appointment may provoke between now and the time his name comes up in the Senate, even those most distressed by the appointment itself were quick to acknowledge that Clifford's qualifications are extraordinary, and that the President's decision entailed no loss of face for other leading contenders like Presidential adviser Cyrus Vance or Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul H. Nitze.

Like John F. Kennedy when he was alive, and President Johnson now, Clifford is a firm believer in the so-called domino theory. He is convinced that what Mr. Johnson is doing now in Vietnam will be recognized by history as being as important as what Harry S. Truman did in Europe twenty years ago. He thinks that the military should be given a freer hand in bombing targets in North Vietnam and that the U.S. should forget "world opinion" and set out to get results militarily. Clifford's counsel has also helped the President resist pressures for further pauses in the bombing of North Vietnam. "He is a man who not only believes in our present Vietnam policy," says an Administration adviser, who knows him well, "but he helped convince the President himself that it is the right one."

Completely in Key: To most of official Washington, Clifford also has the virtue of being an eminently known quantity. Harry Truman brought him to the White House in 1946, and over the years the handsome Kansan has become a permanent fixture, easily at home on Capitol Hill, and respected by business leaders as well as politicians.

Clifford accompanied the President to the Manila conference of Asian leaders in 1966 and met again with South Vietnamese leaders during his Asian trip with Gen. Maxwell Taylor last summer; and he has also been present in the White House "hot line" room during conversations with the Russians on Vietnam. One close friend of Clifford's claimed that his reputation as a hawk could serve him in good stead if Vietnam negotiations should materialize, because Congressional critics from the ranks of the hawks would be disarmed in advance.

On balance, then, the Clifford appointment was completely in key with Mr. Johnson's approach to election year 1968 in general, and with his doggedly determined policy on Vietnam in particular. It is these considerations that lent an air of injured innocence to such reactions as those of The New York Times. The Times saw the Clifford appointment as "particularly uninspiring . . . no comfort for the many who had hoped to see a shift in Vietnam strategy toward de-escalation and negotiation." After all, in his State of the Union speech just two days earlier, a somber President had made it abundantly clear that there is no such shift in prospect.

President's bombing of North Vietnam and opposed the 37-day New Year's pause.

Then why the calm reception from Senator Fulbright?

Judgment reserved

It would seem that judgment has to be reserved. Most officials are given favorable news reports when they take office, in the nature of things. Friends and officials tell their good works.

Critics are often inclined to give the new man a chance. In the case of an "insider's insider" like Mr. Clifford, it is particularly difficult to project the qualities of an intimate, personal adviser onto the implacable and man-breaking level of Cabinet officer, responsible for war and management of the Penatgon that was once thought unmanageable.

A search for serious crticisms of his past conduct is unrewarding for the most part. He and Abe Fortas, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, were Mr. Johnson's counselors on how to meet the onslaught of the Robert G. (Bobby) Baker case. They appear to have advised him to discuss frankly and in public the Baker gifts that came to him, but not advertising on the President's and Mrs. Johnson's Texas television station.

He advised the President on how to drop Robert F. Kennedy as a vice-presidential possibility — a complex political maneuver that is still being discussed here. These are issues that arouse emotions, but Mr. Clifford's role cannot be pinned to anything more than that of an adviser, suggesting how to deal with problems.

So Washington is inclined to wait. The new Secretary of Defense could fit comfortably, like an old shoe, into the triumvirate that helps the President set policy on war and peace. He could serve the President's tendency to keep dissent at a distance and not include it within his most intimate official family. Or he could turn out to be more capable of discussing alternative policies than the committed men now around the President. Observers incline toward the former but become more unsure as they review Mr. Clifford's career and talk to Senator Fulbright.

At least the new Secretary of Defense knows the difficulties of the job—he was the chief architect of it and urged Secretary McNamara on, as he made the unification laws a reality. With characteristic dry statement, he said he knew of these difficulties, and that they attracted him to the job.

NEW YORK NEWS

24 January 1968

Manila War Protest

Manila, Jan. 23 (AP) — More than 1,000 student and labor demonstrators burned an effigy of President Johnson today during a loud and peaceful Vietnam war protest outside the Halls of Congress. The demonstrators demanded the recall of the 2,000-man non-combatant Philippine group from Vietnam.

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, 24 January 1968

Saigon army reform stymied

The first of two articles about revamping the 670,000-man South Vietnamese armed forces. The effects of changes, or lack of them, will partly determine whether American combat troops can begin their withdrawal in at least two years as Gen. William C. Westmoreland has forecast.

By Beverly Deepe
Special correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

Saigon

A coalition of American and Vietnamese generals has indirectly blocked, at least temporarily, the much-promised radical reform of the 10 divisions of the South Vietnamese Regular Army.

Informed Vietnamese and American sources report any major revamping of the Vietnamese armed forces in 1968 will be concentrated, not in the 300,000-man regular ground forces as was expected, but in the 300,000-man provincial militia, called regional and popular forces.

The other 70,000 men constituting the armed forces serve in the South Vietnamese Air Force, Navy, Marines, and a defense group led by special forces.

Discussions on the radical reform program have in the past few months become caught in a complex cross fire of infighting and disagreement within the Vietnamese command, within the Vietnamese Government, within the American military command, and between the American and Vietnamese establishments.

Shift explained

In broadest terms, the radical reform program would have shifted the Vietnamese Army of 300,000 men from a traditional, conventional organization to a more progressively organized and operated force structure. It would have streamlined the Vietnamese decisionmaking process and facilitated implementation of the crucial pacification program. This has currently been vetoed.

"All this talk about the reorganization and reform of the Vietnamese Army simply means the mountain gave birth to a mouse," one informed middle-level Vietnamese officer explained.

The coalition of some American and some Vietnamese generals vetoed the core of the radical-reform proposal — the abolition of the 10 regular Army divisions (ARVN) and the simultaneous reduction of the politico-military power of the 10 Vietnamese division commanders. This would have also significantly reduced the power of the four Vietnamese corps commanders, commonly, and even officially, called the "war lords" of Vietnam.

Reform opposed

The Vietnamese division and corps commanders were opposed to the reform proposal because they had the most power to lose immediately. Their political power — based on the raw power of the guns and troops they command — is substantial though somewhat reduced from earlier years.

Also, President Nguyen Van Thieu was reportedly opposed to the proposal because his political base of support within the Vietnamese armed forces lies with these generals.

Other Vietnamese favored the proposal, however. Principally, these were the more impatient, middle-level officers, Vice-President Nguyen Cao Ky, and Maj. Gen. Nguyen Duc Thang. On the Vietnamese side, the conflicting views somewhat reflect the continued state of conflict between President Thieu and Vice-President Ky.

Decision overruled

The proposal was approved by Mr. Ky when he was premier last year. However, the decision was later overruled by President Thieu and the Army division and corps commanders in the field. These generals had been the key decisionmakers in nominating Mr. Thieu, instead of Mr. Ky, to run as president in the September elections last year.

On the American side, reliable sources reported influential United States generals in the command under Gen. William C. Westmoreland were also opposed to abolishing the divisional structure because they wanted to continue patterning the Vietnamese Army along the conventional lines of the American Army.

Some sources speculate that underlying the reasoning of the United States generals is the assumption that in the future—in the years following a peace settlement or an American troop reduction—the main threat to South Vietnam would still be a Korean-style invasion which would need to be met by conventional divisions. The threat of continued insurrection within the country would demand nonconventional armed forces.

Abolition favored

Civilian elements within General Westmoreland's command were reportedly in favor of the abolition of the conventional divisions. In particular, General Westmoreland's deputy commander for pacification, Ambassador Robert Komer, was known to favor the move because the reduction in the influence of the division commanders would have streamlined the decisionmaking process in the pivotal pacification program.

Had the reform measures been approved, the division and corps commanders would have lost their power in the pacification program. The line of decisionmaking would have run directly from the Saigon level to the province chiefs.

One significant but lateral compromise was made within American official circles. Both American generals and civilians within the command agreed to the abolition of the Vietnamese division tactical zones. In these zones of several provinces each the Vietnamese division commander has been held responsible for military affairs as well as pacification.

Decision sanctioned

The Vietnamese officialdom agreed in form with this all-American compromise, but the substance was in effect negated by a recent decree signed by President Thieu, which provided that division commanders would be responsible for deciding if and when their own tactical zones would be abolished.

While some American officials are visibly displeased about that Vietnamese decree, some Vietnamese officers—including the division commanders—are also disgusted with the Americans on another score: the formation of the Vietnamese light brigades.

According to the reform proposal, the most aggressive battalions within each division—about 30 percent of the 12,000 man divisional strength—were to have been organized into highly mobile strike forces, comparable to the American brigades. The remaining battalions were to be detailed for counterguerrilla and "territorial" defense. The proposed Vietnamese brigades, averaging 4,000 men, would have been reinforced in strength from 3 to 4 battalions per brigade and from 4 to 5 companies per battalion.

Enthusiasm voiced

Even the division commanders were enthusiastic about this aspect of the proposal, but Vietnamese sources say the American command blocked it.

The current modest decision has been made to assign only a maximum of three battalions to each brigade, and none of these battalions will be as heavily manned as five companies.

Also, each Vietnamese brigade, technically called a "divisional strike force," would have been assigned much more, better, and newer equipment to increase its firepower and mobility. Each brigade was to include one battalion of 16 howitzers, one squadron of 17 armored personnel carriers, and one transportation company of 50 trucks.

Well-informed sources said the American command told the Vietnamese command to "wait until next year to get this equipment."

Each of these brigades was also to be retrained and organized to fight and maneuver as an integrated unit as American brigades do. But the Vietnamese sources also say this has yet to take place and there are no plans to effect it.

Viewpoint sketched

One Vietnamese officer, now frustrated after working so hard on the entire reform proposal, put it this way:

"The Americans are very tricky. They talked a lot about helping us reform the Vietnamese Army. They asked us to make a study and we produced a practical one. Then the Americans amended it and they agreed only to the minor points. Yet they steal our ideas and use them for the American troops."

One of the ideas he charged the Americans "stole" from the Vietnamese proposal was to increase the strength of each battalion by adding one more line company—or more riflemen. This was recently done in the American Army, but has not been approved for the Vietnamese Army.

Some of the younger, middle-level American officers, in sympathy with their impatient Vietnamese counterparts, often agree with this Vietnamese viewpoint.

In abolishing the 10 divisions, the proposal also specified that the least aggressive battalions in each division would be retrained and "redeployed" as a counter guerrilla security force protecting the pacification program in the villages.

This "redeployment"—even officially it is not called reform or reorganization—was initiated last year and will be accelerated this year until between 50 and 60 of the total 120 Regular Army battalions are assigned to this mission.

The current decision, however, is that these Regular Army battalions are "on loan" for pacification duties. Rather than becoming a permanent counter-guerrilla force, they will be returned to their conventional division status when the situation permits.

Plan initiated

The radical proposal for transforming the Vietnamese Army was first made by the Vietnamese high command in 1965. It was pigeonholed by the American military command until the July visit of Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara last year.

When Mr. McNamara made critical public remarks about both the Vietnamese and American command management, the American command again studied the Vietnamese proposal and then agreed "in principle" to the proposal. This proposal had the backing of Air Vice-Marshal Nguyen Cao Ky, then premier and now Vice-President; of Gen. Nguyen Duc Thang, then Minister of Revolutionary Development and now No. 2 in the Vietnamese high command; of Gen. Cao Van Vien, head of the Vietnamese high command; and of Gen. Nguyen Van Vy, then deputy to General Vien and now Minister of Defense.

Then the opposition began to snowball — first from the Vietnamese division commanders, who had the most power to lose by being, in effect, demoted only to brigade commanders, and then from the four corps commanders.

Opposition snowballed

After the September elections, General Thieu was elected President, replacing Marshal Ky as the most important policymaker. President Thieu, in conflict with Vice-President Ky on a wide range of points, rejected the Ky-sponsored proposal. President Thieu moved somewhat toward the view of the corps commanders, who had supported him in outmaneuvering Marshal Ky for the presidential nomination.

The negative view of the Vietnamese division and corps commanders was in turn supported by their American counterparts in the field and by the American military command in Saigon.

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NEW YORK TIMES, 24 January 1968

Foreign Affairs: A New Look at NATO

By C. L. SULZBERGER

PARIS—When Britain decided to tailor defenses to its purse, Asian commitments were sacrificed to European commitments. On the surface this would seem a favorable development for NATO, which has been in the market for favorable developments ever since de Gaulle withdrew France from the alliance organization and kicked its headquarters out.

Nevertheless, NATO is going to suffer in the long run. To fill the eastern gap (between Arabia and Singapore) opened by British departure, the U.S.A. is obviously going to have to step in.

Plus and Minus

Furthermore, it is plain that to finance such a move we will end up by accelerating withdrawals of men and material from NATO, withdrawals that have already begun. The ultimate reduction in American forces almost certainly will be more important, negatively, than Britain's positive decision to keep troops in Germany.

It was inevitable that the U.S. garrison in Germany should shrink, but the process will now presumably move at a faster pace. And since General Lemnitzer's forces are already 25 per cent smaller than what had originally been considered a healthy minimum, the ultimate effect on the alliance can be imagined. By going Europe first in policy emphasis, Britain has pushed the U.S.A. into going Asia first.

The ultimate implications are not difficult to perceive. Militarily NATO is in the paradoxical position of just having changed its official strategy from "massive retaliation" to "flexible response." Theoretically this means a Soviet thrust westward would initially be met by conventional forces. However, since there aren't enough conventional forces now and soon there will be less, the generals are forced to plan in terms of massive retaliation, whatever allied statesmen think.

Politically, the implications are more complicated. NATO in reality is an alliance against Russia, the greatest potential enemy, and also against West Germany, the most powerful European member. This is an inherent paradox and weakness. It will be underscored in the inescapable crisis that must eventually be caused by shrinkage of U.S. contributions.

The relative power of Germany within the alliance must increase as the American presence diminishes. Neither France, which has a small nuclear force but only two divisions half-heartedly assigned to NATO, nor Britain can offset Bonn's twelve divisions. Thus the German role and inevitably the German voice inside NATO are bound to rise, and this will excite Soviet suspicions because, of all the allies, Moscow suspects Germany most.

Thus two contradictions, neither of them helpful, arise. By going Europe first and theoretically bolstering NATO, Britain incites us to go Asia first, factually weakening NATO. At the same time, as the alliance gets weaken it will incur greater hostility from its principal opponent, Russia. For the restraining influences woven around Germany since it began to rearm are less effective—as the Russians know.

Denuclearization

Another trend is the alliance's gradual denuclearization. Although France continues to develop its small atomic force it has not committed this to NATO, while Britain is on the way out as a nuclear power. The U.S.A. has removed the nuclear capacity from several West German aircraft and is likely to refuse it to their replacements.

The alliance is changing so much—as has the world for which it was conceived—that it is time to acknowledge this by formal alterations. The first should be the appointment, when Lemnitzer retires, of a European commander in chief. Since France is only a kind of associate member and Germany is number one on Moscow's hate list, this new commander should be British.

Every NATO commander has been American so far, but as long ago as 1952, when Eisenhower retired, the idea of a European successor was contemplated. Even then Eisenhower's chief of staff and ultimate successor, General Gruenther, thought a European could handle the job effectively provided an American deputy supervised secret nuclear problems in accordance with U.S. Congressional restrictions. If Gruenther thought this possible then, it is clearly even more possible now.

The revolution inside NATO begun by de Gaulle has been stepped up because of Britain's policy shift and its evident repercussions. Our presence inside NATO is going to be diluted; therefore we should be the first to propose that Europe's importance in the alliance hierarchy must now be increased.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, 24 January 1968

Britain's Far East Withdrawal Strains Relations With U. S.

By ROBERT C. TOTH

Special to The Inquirer And Los Angeles Times

LONDON.

SELDOM has the "special relationship" between the Unitd States and Britain been more strained than now as a result of the announced withdrawal by 1972 of all British forces east of Suez.

The last few years of Britain's centuries-long military presence in the Far East has been more shadow than substance. Critics likened it to a sacred Hindu cow—never fed enough, yet never put out of its misery.

But there was little solace for the United States in the political economic or defense justifications for the pullout. Some of the harsh words ever exchanged by the two Allies are understood to have been passed over this particular cow.

If Washington accused Britain of abdicating responsibilities, Whitehall retorted that America has been telling the British for 20 years to find a new role to replace the lost empire. Now that we're moving toward Europe, ran the tenor of the response, don't get upset because you don't like it.

WHITEHALL contends the the July, 1967, defense white paper promising withdrawal from Southeast Asia in the 1973-1977 period was a statement of principle. The timetable has only been accelerated because of devaluation.

But the new deadline represents a qualitative change because the date for withdrawal has been firmly set and the decision is essentially irreversible. Nor was any mention of a Persian Gulf retreat then mentioned.

Last July there was enough fuzzing of the British position to allow its troops to be kept on in Southeast Asia as long a the iVetnam war continued, or so Washington believed. Now there is no flexibility on the deadline.

Four years is a short time to build new regional defenses to take Britain's place. In fact, the Cabinet initially wanted to withdraw in early 1970 but Defense Minister Denis Healey, threatening resignation, got it pushed back to March, 1971, and Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew had it extended another nine months.

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A NEW defense system will require Malaysia and Singapore to cooperate. Their leaders detest each other. Neither wants U. S. help, nor does the United States want to become further committed in the region. And there is another potential threat in the region besides Peking—Indonesia, sprawling and possibly expansionist when it recovers from the Sukarno chaos.

Finally, the 1973-77 deadline allowed for the next general election here (1971 or earlier). If the Tories were returned, there was a good chance the pullout would have been canceled.

The most immediate question for the United States is how the pullout decision will affect Britain's support for America in Vietnam.

Prime Minister Harold Wilson has resisted leftist pressure for total dissociation but in mid-1966 he did criticize publicly the first bombing of Hanoi's outskirts. Now he has more excuse, both there and at home, to stage some kind of encore.

• • •

ON THE other hand, it is just possible he will be stronger for the United States. His main worry in the past, according to some observers, was getting Britain physically involved in Vietnam because its forces were in the area. Now he may feel safer about braver words against Hanoi.

The State Department is primarily concerned with growing Russian influence in the oil-rich gulf while Britain sees the danger to stability there as indigenous revolutionaries.

It is difficult to believe that the United States will allow a vacuum to develop in either region. As former British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan told an American audience recently, "The torch which we carried for so long has passed into your more powerful hands."

NEW YORK TIMES, 24 January 1968

A VIETCONG TARGET: PACIFICATION TEAMS

HANOI, North Vietnam, Jan. 22 (Agence France-Presse)—The military command of the South Vietnamese National Liberation Front has ordered the "annihilation" of all pacification teams in South Vietnam and of the forces supporting them.

The order, a copy of which has reached Hanoi, is addressed to the entire force of the National Liberation Front—Vietcong regular troops, regional units, militiamen and guerrillas. The order says in part:

Explaining the need for this order, the National Liberation Front command said:

"The Americans are increasing the number of satellite and American pacification units and the size of the teams.

"The pacification personnel are really American agents specialised in killing, terror, and in holding our compatriots in a vise."

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WASHINGTON STAR, 23 January 1968 (24)

Keeping Track of Retired Officers

By ORR KELLY

Defense Department directive 5500.7 requires each regular retired officer of the armed forces to file a statement of employment known as DD Form 1357.

Form 1357 is a simple single-page form on which the retired officer is asked to list whom he works for, whether his employer offers goods or services to certain government agencies and what his duties are.

Now, you'd think these forms would be kept in some convenient place where someone who suspected a retired officer's job might involve a conflict of interest might go look at them.

Right?

Wrong!

Another directive, this one numbered 5400.7, says the information in a Form 1357 can be made public only if the individual chooses to make it public.

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The theory behind this is that disclosure of the information "would result in a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy."

The whole purpose of having retired officers let their old service know where they are working is to try to stamp out the practice engaged in by some defense contractors of putting former officers on the payroll to take advantage of their contacts with their old buddies in the service.

When the forms come in, someone—in theory at least—looks them over to see if the retired officer has admitted that his duties involve actions prohibited by the conflict of interest laws. If they appear to, the form is sent to the judge advocate general of the service, who is supposed to find out if a law is being violated, and, if it is, to do something about it.

But if the officer's own description of his job doesn't appear on the surface to involve a conflict of interest, the form is tucked away in an alphabetical file. Moreover, the files are not all in one place. The forms are kept in whatever office issues the former officer's retirement check.

This means that not even an official of the government can see, for example, how many retired generals and admirals are working for defense contractors, without wading through all the files, wherever in the country they happen to be kept.

The failure of the existing system was rather dramatically illustrated when two officers, one an Air Force colonel and the other a Navy captain, retired and almost immediately went to work for the Pratt & Whitney division of United Aircraft.

Both had intimate knowledge of the engine program for the F111 airplane and it just so happens that Pratt & Whitney is in the midst of negotiations with the government for engines for the F111—the largest single contract ever entered into by the Navy.

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In this case, the two officers have been assigned to production jobs unrelated to the negotiations for the engine contract and there is nothing illegal in what they have done. The government might even benefit, in fact, from the contribution their skill will make to the company.

But the distressing fact is that neither the Navy negotiating team nor high-ranking Navy officials who have been giving personal attention to the F111 program even knew the two officers were on the Pratt & Whitney payroll until they learned about it by other means and almost by accident.

If the Form 1357s were kept in a central location, the Navy and Defense officials involved could, rather easily, have learned the two officers had gone to work with the company. And if the forms were, as they should be, a public record, some reporter almost certainly would have called it to their attention.

The information contained in the forms is perfectly innocuous — very little more than you can find in a city directory.

Only by the greatest stretch of the imagination could it be considered an invasion of privacy to make public where a man works and a brief description of his job.

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One can see why a medical record should be considered confidential. But the only persons a man might want to hide his new place of employment from are his creditors — and that shouldn't worry an officer and a gentleman.

Whether or not the Form 1357 is a public record is not a matter of law. It's a question of the judgment of the general counsel of the Defense Department and, ultimately, of Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara.

Before he leaves the Pentagon, he should let his better judgment guide him and make it possible for both government officials and the public to keep track of where officers go to work when they leave the service.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, 24 January 1968

Giant task faces bomb salvors

By George W. Ashworth
Staff correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

Washington

Recovery of hydrogen bombs lost beneath the ice off Greenland will be an extremely difficult and costly task.

A B-52 bearing the hydrogen bombs crashed Sunday while attempting an emergency landing at Thule Air Base on the western side of Greenland. The plane apparently crashed into the ice covering North Star Bay. As the plane burned, the six-to-nine foot thickness of ice beneath melted and plunged wreckage to the bottom of the bay, possibly carrying the hydrogen bomb load along.

The temperature was in the 20's, below freezing, and the ice quickly closed over the hole. Six of seven crewmen were saved.

Full details were not immediately available. The Pentagon's initial reaction was to cast a veil of secrecy around all but the barest facts relating to the incident.

Serious difficulty

But it was clear that a serious difficulty was posed. The Air Force says proudly that it has never lost a nuclear weapon despite a number of accidents. Never before, however, has that service had to cope with such circumstances.

In the coming weeks, the ice in the area will thicken considerably. And surface operations will be hampered by the lack of light, there being now only about four hours of twilight daily.

During World War II, a B-17 bomber crashed through ice off Greenland in early winter. It was only about 100 feet down, but weather and ice conditions prevented the start of salvage efforts until warmer weather arrived.

In this situation, the conditions are worse, but the urgency of recovery of at least the nuclear weapons is substantially greater.

The closest parallel in recent times to the current incident was the loss in waters off Spain of one of four bombs being carried by a B-52 when it collided with a refueling tanker and crashed. Three of the bombs scattered on land and were recovered quickly. However, it was not until nearly three months after the January, 1966, accident that the Navy was able to recover the fourth from the deep waters off the coast.

The bomb off Spain was eventually recovered at a depth of about 2,800 feet. The bombs believed lost off Greenland are apparently in substantially shallower water, but the ice and weather conditions present prodigious obstacles to a recovery operation.

According to experts, a constant problem, once the bombs are found, would be keeping the locations and positions of underwater recovery vehicles and the bombs fixed.

Craft available

The Navy has available deep submergence craft, such as the Alvin, capable of conducting painstaking searches of the bottom of the bay. But such vehicles can operate a maximum of about 72 hours under water before they must resurface. Any navigational difficulties that prevented the craft from surfacing when necessary could lead to tragedy. And it is very difficult for such vehicles to find their way back up through small openings in the ice. A further problem would be keeping those openings cleared in the extreme cold of the Arctic north.

Experts believe that the bombs and plane could not be far from the scene of the crash. Thus the search area is narrowed. But acoustical detection equipment could encounter difficulties because of undersea obstructions that could easily prolong the search.

According to the Pentagon, there is no danger of a nuclear explosion. Thus, with no apparent danger, it may be possible to delay operations either until the most sophisticated equipment available can be gotten to the isolated site or to delay while awaiting more favorable weather.

With or without delay, however, crews face an extremely difficult and perilous task.

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AEROSPACE DAILY 24 JANUARY 1968

PENTAGON DEBATES FATE OF FB-111 IN BUDGET SQUEEZE

The production schedule for all F-111 aircraft has slipped into next fiscal year as a result of the $6 billion Pentagon hardware cutback. And this has led to reports in some quarters that the strategic bomber version is in danger because of the delay.

However, other sources claim that while times have been changed, numbers have not. They said the 250 FB-111s the Air Force says it needs for a 210 aircraft on-line bomber force are still under contract. The Air Force was never "force fed" the bomber version of the F-111 fighter as some have claimed, these informants said. The Air Force resisted only the "stretched" FB-111 because of fears that it might adversely affect development of the Advanced Manned Strategic Aircraft

But, the stronger voices for the moment claim contracts can always be cancelled and that the Air Force is facing the same situation that the Navy is on the F-111B--time is getting short in acquiring improved aircraft.

They say the Air Force is especially anxious to go into contract definition on AMSA, which Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell said was imperative as long ago as 1965. In addition, they point out that DOD has permitted the Air Force to continue one wing of B-52 bombers originally slated to be phased out this fiscal year. This permits the Air Force to continue its bomber force at adequate strength while developing AMSA and without having to introduce the FB-111.

The Air Force, sources say, prefers to skip the interim step which will cost at least $1.75 billion and the current fund squeeze in an election year has made its position more solid.

Also, Congress is expected to give the program another hard look as part of the FY '69 budget process. Range claims that Defense Secretary McNamara has made for the FB-111 are generally discounted by congressmen. And they are also upset because bombs on the outer four pylons must be jettisoned when the wings are swept back. The plane has eight pylons which carry 48 750 lb. bombs, according to McNamara.

Meanwhile, F-111A model number 18, which has been converted into the bomber prototype, has been flying since Aug. 1 and Autonautics Div. of North American Rockwell delivered the first Mk IIB avionics system for the FB-111 on Dec. 1.

AEROSPACE DAILY 24 JANUARY 1968

SMALL BUSINESS GRIPES AGAINST AIR FORCE AIRED AT HEARING

The possibility of government reprisals against businessmen who protest government contracting procedures was raised yesterday at a House Small Business Subcommittee hearing and was immediately denied by the chairman and by officials of the Air Force.

The reprisal charge was made by William H. Barnhard, president of Commcraft, Inc., of Norman, Okla., a firm dependent on Air Force contracts. He testified in protest of the removal of two Air Force contracts from the small business set-aside list. He said, "We share, to a degree, the trepidation of the other affected small businesses who, through fear of reprisal, declined to participate in this protest."

Rep. James C. Corman (D-Calif.), chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Procurement, said he doubted the possibility of reprisals in this case. Aaron J. Racusin, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for procurement, flatly denied the allegation, saying that if any instances of reprisals were cited during the hearing, "we want first crack at this."

Barnhard protested the handling of ground communications contracts for Vandenberg AFB and a seven-state area. He said the action by Air Force contracting officials was part of the trend of "survival by merger" that threatens the existence of small business.

He was joined in the protest by A.B. Meador, president of Communications Engineering Corp. of Mobile, Ala.

Quoting Air Force estimates of the contracts when they were set aside a year ago, Barnhard declared, "The present procurements are only a fraction of previous procurements and therefore must, by precedent, be within the financial limitations considered appricable to small business." He said the contracting conditions met set-aside requirements for sources, financial responsibility and manpower. "The preponderance of communications field service contractors are small businessmen," Barnhard added.

He said that when his firm informed an Air Force small business specialist, Mrs. Kay Schell, about the protest, "She requested that protests not be lodged with the Pentagon or Congress. We complied with this request until our position became hopeless. We did perhaps err in pleading our case before more than one congressman. However, at the time we felt pretty much abandoned and weren't sure that anyone would hear us."

Racusin said, "The proposals have been evaluated and it has been determined that a small business concern is the apparent low bidder on both RFPs, with technically acceptable proposals."

AEROSPACE DAILY 24 JANUARY 1968

DOD INCREASING SPENDING ON DRONES

The Defense Department is stepping up spending on drones, most of which are used for aerial reconnaissance over communist countries. And the Navy is getting more involved in these programs; it is now working on a robot torpedo boat target, a drone simulating the Russian Styx missile, and even a drone mine layer.

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JAN 68

CURRENT NEWS

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PRESS

NEW YORK TIMES 25 January 1968 P1

NORTH KOREA AND RUSSIA REBUFF U.S. EFFORTS TO FREE SEIZED SHIP

NEW YORK TIMES
25 January 1968 P1

B-52 HUNT LOCATES PIECES OF H-BOMB

By EVERT CLARK
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 — Air Force crews found fragments of at least one hydrogen bomb at the site of a B-52 bomber crash off Greenland before weather forced a halt to the search, the Defense Department said today.

But "it still has not been determined whether parts of the plane or of the four nuclear weapons carried on the plane went into or through the ice," the Pentagon said.

The eight-engine bomber crashed on the ice of North Star Bay near the Thule Air Force Base on Sunday after fire had forced the crew to abandon it.

Arctic winter darkness, strong winds and temperatures of 25 degrees below have hampered efforts to find the missing weapons.

"Pieces of weapons-associated hardware" were found by a search team that went to the site yesterday to set up facilities, the Pentagon said. It did not say how many pieces were found or what size they were.

Other sources said the largest piece of aircraft wreckage found so far was six feet long. Most pieces were about the size of a pack of cigarettes and many were no larger than a dime, these sources said.

A wooden hekicopter landing pad was flown to the crash site, about seven miles from the air base, and put into place yesterday. Helicopters had been unable to land because of darkness and swirling snow stirred by their rotor blades. About a foot of snow covers the bay ice, which is seven nine feet thick.

A prefabricated building, flown to the scene by helicopter, was assembled when water was poured over its joints and it froze, the Pentagon said.

Wreckage of the plane is widely scattered and burn

CONTINUED PAGE 2

WASHINGTON POST 25 January 1968 P1

North Koreans Claim U.S. Captain Confessed

From News Dispatches

North Korea claimed yesterday the captain of the USS Pueblo had confessed that he was engaged in "criminal espionage activities" inside North Korean territorial waters when he was captured Tuesday. The United States termed this "a travesty on the facts."

The alleged confession was attributed to Cmdr. Lloyd Mark Bucher. The 38-year-old officer, his 83-man crew and their intelligence ship were taken into custody by North Korean patrol boats and brought to the port of Wonsan.

The (North) Korean Central News Agency quoted Bucher as saying that he was carrying out an espionage mission against the Soviet Union and North Korea for which he and his crew had been offered "a lot of dollars" from the Central Intelligence Agency.

Alleged Remarks

"Having been captured now, I say frankly that our act was a criminal act which flagrantly violated the armistice agreement and it was a sheer act of aggression," Bucher said, according to the news agency.

"I have no excuse whatsoever for my criminal act as my ship intruded deep into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and was captured by the naval patrol crafts of the Korean People's Army in their self-defense action while conducting criminal espionage activities," the Commander allegedly said.

Called 'Fabrication'

In Washington, the Pentagon promptly asserted that the account attributed to Bucher was a "fabrication." It added that "no credence should be given to this contrived statement."

Assistant Secretary of Defense Phil G. Goulding, the Pentagon's chief spokesman, said the "style and wording" of the document published by the North Koreans "provide unmistakable evidence in themselves that this was not written or prepared by any American." He continued:

"The major point which this propaganda utterance attempts to make is that the Pueblo had violated North Korean territorial waters and was, in fact, violating those territorial waters when the North Korean patrol craft appeared.

"This is absolutely untrue."

Goulding said the Pueblo reported her position at the time of her capture as 39:25 north and 127:55 east. As the ship was being seized, he added, the North Koreans placed it at 39:25 north and 127:56 east.

"These two reported positions are within a mile of one another and both show conclusively that the Pueblo was in international waters," Goulding continued.

Pentagon sources noted that the position given in Bucher's alleged confession was 39:17.4 north and 127:46.9 east. This position, unlike the one given earlier in a North Vietnamese ship-to-shore radio transmission which was monitored by U.S. listening stations, is inside Korean waters.

North Korea claims a frontier extending 12 miles out to sea.

"The Pueblo was under orders from the beginning of its mission to stay at least 13 miles from North Korean territory," Goulding said. "There is no evidence to suggest that these orders were disobeyed."

The Assistant Secretary said the claim that Bucher and his crew were working for the CIA was "typical of this propaganda sham . . .

"Commander Bucher is a naval officer, commanding a naval ship and performing a naval mission. He is not employed by the CIA and was promised nothing by the CIA. Nor were any members of his crew."

The Korean Central News

CONTINUED PAGE 3

By PETER GROSE
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 — The United States was rebuffed today in initial diplomatic efforts to obtain the release of the intelligence ship Pueblo and her crew of 83, captured yesterday by the Communist regime of North Korea.

Administration spokesmen said, that the Soviet Union brusquely refused to act on a United States request that Moscow use its good offices with the North Koreans.

Qualified sources indicated, however, that further diplomatic initiatives would be attempted before there was any resort to military reprisals.

There was no clear idea inside the Administration about the most effective way to apply diplomatic pressures, but two lines of approach—through the United Nations, and a second appeal to the Soviet Union—were under active consideration.

As a move of general preparedness, the nuclear-powered carrier Enterprise and four destroyers escorts were directed to take up positions off the coast of South Korea. From there, North Korea would be only a few minutes away for the 90 jet aircraft on board the carrier.

Rusk Warns North Koreans

Secretary of State Dean Rusk said the seizure was in the category of actions to be construed as an act of war.

"My strong advice to the North Koreans is to cool it," Mr. Rusk said after having given testimony in a closed session of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

President Johnson summoned members of the National Security Council for a White House conference, the first meeting of the board since Nov. 23.

After the meeting, Administration officials indicated that the advice to "cool it" might be applied as well to speculation that immediate military action was contemplated to force the release of the ship and her crew.

CONTINUED PAGE 2

PREPARED BY THE AIR FORCE (SAF-AA) AS EXECUTIVE AGENT FOR THE DOD TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF KEY DEFENSE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL MATTERS WITHIN THEIR OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITIES. NO OTHER USE OF THIS PUBLICATION IS AUTHORIZED.

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N.KOREA AND RUSSIA REBUFF US EFFORTS... Continued

Ambassador Llewellyn Thomson was reported to have been greeted with an immediate and negative response yesterd from the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Vasily V. Kuznetsov, when he went to the Kremlin to urge the Russians to act.

Officials reported that the Soviet diplomat did not even accept the United States messag for consideration by the Kremlin, he rejected it on the spot.

The second immediate line of contact, a direct meeting with North Korean officials at the military Armistice Commission in Panmunjon, produced equally unsatisfactory results.

The State Department spokesman, Robert J. McCloskey, described the reaction of the North Korean representative as "cynical, denunciatory of the United States and a distortion of the facts of the case."

The North Koreans contended that the Pueblo was carrying out acts of provocation — United States officials said this was patently false — and that she was within North Korean tagon and other United States territorial waters.

Careful analysis at the Pen- Government offices of the ship' position in Wonsan Bay indicated that by no definition of territorial waters could it be said that the Pueblo was in illegal waters.

Mr. McCloskey said the Pueblo was "well beyond" the 12-mile territorial limit claimed by North Korea. Other sources said she may have been seized at a point as much as 25 miles off shore.

Defense Department planners considered several military options that are open to the United States should the diplomatic efforts fail. Among those under most serious discussion were the following:

¶An attempt to storm into Wonsan harbor and forcibly retrieve the vessel.

¶Seizure or destruction of one or more North Korean ships as retaliation or for potential bargaining power.

¶Aerial bombing and sinking of the Pueblo at the Wonsan docks to deny Communist counterintelligence teams any further access to the electronic intelligence-gathering equipment on board.

A naval blockade of Wonsan and perhaps other North Korean ports.

Reconnaissance missions were said to have been flown over North Korea after the seizure of the Pueblo early yesterday. All Air Force and Navy units in the area received orders, however, to avoid any actions that might be considered provocation.

"It is still the hope of this Government that the matter can be resolved through diplomatic channels," George Christian, the White House press secretary said. Secretary Rusk said "we would like to see the Russians give us some help in this."

United States officials acknowledge that Soviet influen Pyongyang, the North Korea capital may be limited by Moscow's reluctance to alienate an Asian Communist regime that only recently was lured away from open alliance with China.

Moreover, there is evidence that the Russians have encouraged the North Koreans in recent months to carry on sma scale acts of harrassment and infiltration across the armistice demarcation line that separates North and South Korea.

Incidents of terrorism and ambushes against the South Korean people and installations have increased sharply since the North Korean regime adopted a policy of staging "diversionary" attacks to try drawing United States energies away from the war in Vietnam.

United States officials believ however, that the Russians have avoided urging any spectacular gestures, such as the seizure of an American ship, and for a particular reason.

These officials consider the Russians as vulnerable as the Americans to having one of their intelligence-gathering vessels captured or exposed. Soviet trawlers are often spotted following United States naval vessels or observing border installations from just outside territorial waters.

Any future approach to the Kremlin could imply the threat that a Soviet ship might be seized in retaliation. Though Mr. Thompson is understood to have been free to raise this matter in his talk with Mr. Kuznetsov, there is no indication that he had done so.

The Administration is in contact with friendly governments about the best means of applying diplomatic pressure on North Korea, but so far no acceptable course of action has been proposed.

The major difficulty is that the United States has no direct relations with the Pyongyang regime, and virtually no routine business that could provide a mechanism for bargaining. Britain and Canada are already reported to have indicated that they saw no way to play a useful role.

The Communist nations of Eastern Europe seem to offer the best hope of carrying out a mission of good offices, according to some officials. However, Administration spokesmen firmly declined to say whether a response would be sought trhough these channels.

State Department officials said it was not likely that another direct approach would be made to North Korea, though a further meeting of the armistice commission, would be sought.

While top Administration officials worked on steps to recover the ship and her crew, others tried to assess the practical damage already done.

Government experts believe that some secret documents have already been captured by the North Koreans. One of the last radio messages from the Pueblo's skipper, Comdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, indicated that the crew had been unable to destroy all the secret files, according to reliable sources.

Equipment Believed Destroyed

Officials believe, however, that all or most of the radio and radar eavesdropping equipment was destroyed when it became evident that the ship was in danger.

One qualified source said it would take about 30 minutes to complete the destruction of equipment and files. From the signals received there was not this much time between the moment Commander Bucher realized tha the North Koreans intended to board the ship and the time they seized control.

Government sources report that there have been repeated instances lately of harassment by North Korean patrol boats of Unitetd States naval vessels, without any actual threat to the ships.

Broadcasts Denounce U.S.

The North Koreans have denounced the United States recently as having made provocations in the seas off their shores.

A Pyongyang broadcast of Jan. 9, for instance, stated that on Jan. 6 the United States infiltrated "many armed boats, mingled with fishing boats, under the scort of armed warships, into the coastal waters of our side off the east coast to perpetrate provocative acts despite repeated warnings from our side."

"The U.S. imperialists aggressors," the broadcast continued," have lately gone so far as to infiltrate boats carrying espionage and subversive elements. Between Dec. 2 and Dec. 18 last year more than 3,150 fishing boats and boats of spies were infiltrated into the coastal waters of our side on 14 occasions." The broadcast indicated that South Korean as well as American infiltrations were included in this figure.

PIECES OF H-BOMB FOUND...Continued

an area 150 feet wide and marks from the jet's fuel cover 1,500 feet from the point of impact.

Radiation from the weapons was again found by yesterday's team, the Pentagon said today. On Monday, low levels of radiation were found in a pattern 22 feet wide and 1,800 feet long, roughly in the same area as the fuel burns.

Radiation Is Called Low

The radiation is "well below that considered to be hazardous even on prolonged contact," according to the Pentagon. But spokesmen said neither that statement nor any other so far answers the question of whether conventional explosives in the bomb assemblies went off on impact or during the fire.

One or more bombs could simply have broken open and spilled some of the plutonium that is emitting the relatively harmless alpha particles detected so far. They said.

No holes have been seen in the ice that would indicate whether the plane or weapons went through. Any holes would quickly be frozen over in the extremely low temperatures, Pentagon spokesmen said.

The bomber, which weighed half a million pounds, was on a routine airborne-alert flight from the air force base at Plattsburgh, N. Y. It was approaching Thule for an emergency landing because of a possible fire in the navigator's compartment and intense smok the plane.

The Pentagon said the plane was headed due south when it struck the ice. The fuel-burn pattern, and the area where radiation was found, out in a teardrop shape from the impact point.

Until the helicopter pad was placed at the site the only way for crews to go in was by dog sled, using Greenland drivers and a Danish guide, the Pentagon said.

With only about four hours of subtwilight, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. each day, even flares did little to help the search. Searchlights will be used once generating machinery can be set up, military sources said.

About 70 Air Force and civilian specialists have been sent to Thule from the United States. They include Strategic Air Command officers to control recovery operations, weapons experts, nuclear monitoring and ordnance disposal teams and aircraft-accident investigators.

The deteriorating weather in Greenland, which is a Danish territory, postponed plans of a Danish scientific team to leave Copenhagen for Thule.

Meanwhile the Pentagon said five of the six surviving crewmen were in the Thule hospital and the sixth was at Andrews Air Force Base Hospital near here. A seventh man was killed when the crew parachuted from the plane.

PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN 24 January 1968 P15(25)

Britain Still Buying U.S. Phantom Jets

Washington — (AP) — Britain still hopes to buy 100 F-4 Phantom fighter-bombers despite the recent trimming of the British defense budget, officials here said.

Britain canceled earlier this month an order for 50 American F-111 planes. The Phantoms were ordered in February, 1965.

The Phantoms, capable of speeds of more than 1,600 miles an hour, are a U. S. workhorse jet in the Vietnam air war.

NEW YORK TIMES 25 January 1968 P13

Cosmos Satellites Tracked In Landing and Launching

BOCHYM, Germany, jan. 24 (UPI)—A Russian satellite came down in the Soviet Union today and another may have been launched into the same orbit, West German space scientists said.

Monitors at the West German Institute for Satellite and Space Research indicated that Cosmos 199 had been brought down in Soviet territory after eight days in orbit, the institute director, Heinz Kaminski, said.

Later the monitors detected what appeared to be a new satellite— perhaps a newly launched Cosmos 201—followin the identical orbit of Cosmos 199, he said.

Mr. Kaminski discounted the possibility that the new satellite was Cosmos 200, which was launched last Saturday, because of variations in their signals.

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WASHINGTON POST
25 January 1968 P15

Reaction To Seizure Is Divided

The public and political opinion that surfaced in the country yesterday was badly divided over the response the United States should make to North Korea's seizure of the USS Pueblo.

In the Senate, caution seemed the dominant theme. The Democratic Majority Leader, Mike Mansfield of Montana, declared: "We ought to keep our shirts on and not go off half-cocked."

The chairman of the Senate Military Preparedness Subcommittee, John Stennis (D-Miss.), took essentially the same view. He urged the White House to "avoid precipitous and rash over-reaction. Above all, we must not rush pell-mell towards the disaster of World War III."

In the House and among some segments of the American press, the mood and the rhetoric were more militant. A New York Democrat, Rep. Samuel Stratton, said "we've got to get that ship back just as vigorously as President Kennedy got the missiles out of Cuba." House Republican Leader Gerald Ford of Michigan said that if diplomacy fails "the United States must take whatever military action is necessary" to recover the ship.

The chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, tough-talking L. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.), said the United States should declare war if necessary to get the Pueblo back. "I wouldn't fool with him," said Rivers. "I'd deliver an ultimatum. If they didn't give back the ship, I'd turn loose whatever we had out there on them."

If an all-out war in Korea grew out of the Pueblo capture this country would have to consider using tactical nuclear weapons, Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) said in a television panel interview (WTTG) last night.

A few newspapers accused the Administration of cowardice and, in effect, echoed Rivers' call for an unlimited response. "North Korea's bold seizure of the Pueblo," said the Milwaukee Sentinel, "is not nearly so outrageous as has been the American pusillanimous reaction to it. Our official bird is not eagle, hawk or dove. It is chicken."

Said the Chicago Tribune: "Given the spinelessness of successive Administrations since the days of President Truman in dealing with Korea, little, if any, effective action would seem in the making. The United States will have suffered humiliation at the hands of a country it could squash like a bug."

Advice to the Administration to withhold precipitate action and to use first the channels of diplomacy was given by the Los Angeles Times, the Kansas City Star, the New York Times and most other major newspapers.

The most conciliatory statements on the Pueblo incident came from parents of captured crewmen. "Let's keep cool," said Oliver Langenberg of St. Louis, whose 21-year-old son Peter was aboard the ship.

The wife of the Pueblo's commander, Mrs. Lloyd Bucher of San Diego, said her only recourse now is to "pray for his safety."

Blame for the incident was assigned to various targets. Sen. Wallace Bennett (R-Utah) viewed the ship's seizure as simply another step in "World War III, Communist style." But Rep. Wayne Hays (D-Ohio) pointed a finger at the CIA. "Maybe CIA didn't run this," said Hays, "but I expect they did. It's about as fumbling an operation as you would expect from them." The Milwaukee Journal questioned the Navy's judgment in sending out the ship without an escort. The Winston-Salem, N.C., Journal commented on the "impression that her skipper acted ingloriously by surrendering without a fight."

Republican presidential candidate George Romney had no comment at all. "It would be silly," said Romney, "to make a comment on a situation as serious as that without having all the facts."

BALTIMORE SUN 25 January 1968 P4

Tonkin-Pueblo Parallel Is Hinted

By STEPHEN L. NORDLINGER
(Washington Bureau of The Sun)

Washington, Jan. 24—Senator Fulbright (D., Ark.), chariman of the Foreign Relations Committee, strongly suggested today that one or both of the American destroyers involved in the Gulf of Tonkin incidents in 1964 were on intelligence-gathering missions similar to the operation of the U.S.S. Pueblo, seized by North Korea.

Fulbright's comment seemed to challenge the Defense Department's assertion that the destroyers were on "routine patrols" when attacked by North Vietnamese torpedo boats.

Fulbright made his comment following a closed three-hour meeting of his committee which reviewed the results of a staff study of the Gulf of Tonkin incidents. He said that the committee had deferred a decision on whether to proceed with a formal investigation of the incidents.

"Very Complicated Matter"

Asked after the meeting whether there was a parallel between the Pueblo incident and the Gulf of Tonkin situation, Fulbright said that both incidents seemed to involve intelligence-gathering vessels.

Questioned ecplicitly on whether he meant that the two destroyers were on intelligence missions in the Gulf of Tonkin, Fulbright said:

"It would be premature to get into details. It's a matter for the committee. I can say nothing now. It's a very complicated matter."

The committee's staff report is confidential, but it contains a recent comprehehensive study of the incidents by the Associated Press, based on interviews with crew members of the Maddox and Turner Joy, the two destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin incidents.

According to these interviews, the Maddox, shortly before it was attacked August 2, 1964, took aboard at Formosa a large "black box" of electronic equipment operated by a special crew of about a dozen men.

Presumably, the "black box" contained equipment for monitoring North Vietnamese radio and radar signals.

Informed sources said the committee devoted its attention today to a close analysis of the staff's report. The session was said to be free of acrimony, although some members indicated concern about whether this was an appropriate time to begin an inquiry into the Gulf of Tonkin incidents.

"This is a very sensitive matter," Fulbright admitted. "It is even more sensitive because of the recent incident."

He said that the staff's study would be considered again at the committee's next meeting. In the meantime, he said, additional information will be gathered.

"We have quite a mass of material, some of it made available by the Defense Department," Fulbright said. "It is very complicated and very voluminous."

The Gulf of Tonkin incidents provided a turning point in United States involvement in Vietnam. As a result of the reported encounters, the Administration asked Congress for a resolution approving "all necessary measures" taken by the President "to prevent further aggression" in Southeast Asia.

There is no controversy about the August 2 attack on the Maddox, which has been acknowledged by North Vietnam. However, the North Vietnamese Government dismissed the second attack against the Maddox and Turner Joy as a "myth."

According to the Administration, these two ships were attacked by three to six torpedo boats 60 miles off the North Vietnamese coast August 4.

The suspicions of some members of the Foreign Relations Committee are reported to have been aroused by letters that they are said to have received casting doubt on the Administration's account of the second attack, which occurred at night.

"Conclusive" Evidence

In recent weeks, since the committee's staff began its informal inquiry, the Defense Department has emphasized that the evidence that the two destroyers were attacked was "conclusive."

N. KOREANS CLAIM US CAPTAIN CONFESSED... Continued

Agency statement quoted Bucher as saying his ship had carried out numerous assignments for the CIA. For the voyage which ended in capture, his alleged confession continued, the vessel was disguised to look as if it was engaged in research on oceanic electronics.

Bucher reportedly said he entered North Korean waters from Soviet waters Jan. 16.

"My ship was on the utmost alert and observed and ascertained the depth of water, current, water temperature, sea basin, salt density and water transparency" at several points within the North Korean sea frontier, the confession attributed to Bucher said.

The Commander was quoted as saying that his ship also gathered information on military installations, industrial facilities, port traffic and the deployment of armed forces along the coast.

The Pueblo was 7.6 miles off the town of Rodo when North Korean patrol boats appeared, the account continued.

"We were on the alert instantly and tried to escape, firing at the navy patrol crafts . . ." Bucher allegedly said.

"But the situation became more dangerous for us and thus one of my men was killed, another heavily wounded and two others lightly wounded."

The Pentagon said Tuesday that four persons aboard the Pueblo had been wounded. One message from the ship was said to have indicated that one man's leg was blown off, but there were no further details.

The statement attributed to Bucher closed with a reference to the wives and children of the Pueblo's crew and how they were anxiously awaiting the sailors' safe return.

"We only hope, and it is the greatest desire of myself and all my crew, that we will be forgiven leniently by the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea," Bucher was said to have concluded.

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NEW YORK TIMES
25 January 1968 P15

A NERVOUS MOOD GRIPS EUROPEANS

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, Jan. 24 — The Pueblo incident sent a shudder of apprenhension through Western Europe today.

In the capitals there was concern that an American attempt to recover the Pueblo might set off a new Korean war and raise the possibility of Chinese Communist and perhaps worldwide involvement.

In Paris the volume of gold trading nearly doubled—always a sure indicatiin of fear of grave events.

In newspapers in Bonn and Rome there was nervous speculation. While some commentators discerned a Communist plot to open a new front or discourage Hanoi peace feelers, there was little inclination to sympathize with the Americans.

Except in London the assumption was that the intelligence gathering vessel had ventured into North Korean territorial waters.

Of the major Western European Governments, only the British assumed the role of Korean war ally. "We deplore the seizure of a vessel which was in international waters," a Foreign Office spokesman declared.

He said the British Government had received from the United States "full details" about the Pueblo's position and that these "prove the Pueblo was in international waters at the time."

"There is no conflict," the spokesman added, "between what they have said and what Britain believes to be the case."

It was recalled at the Foreign Office that Britain was one of 16 countries that underwrote the Korean armistice, which constituted a declaration of willingness to resist unprovked aggression against South Korea promptly and in unison.

But outside the official circle little sense of solidarity with the United States was discernible.

While observing that the Pueblo had every right to engage in electronic monitoring outside territorial waters, The Times of London comments in an article appearing tomorrow: "There has been no absolute denial by American sources that at some earlier stage during that night the Pueblo might not have been sailing within North Korean territorial waters. If she was, there can be no outright assumption that North Korea was acting illegally, since the principles of pursuit from inside to outside her territorial waters could be held to apply."

The reaction of the "man in the pub" was one of irritation. "The Americans have bungled again," one man said. It was a comment frequently heard.

"First they drop a hydrogen bomb in the Arctic Sea and now they let their spy ship get caught by the North Koreans," he said. The Pueblo was captured two days after a United States B-52 carrying four unarmed hydrogen bombs crashed off Greenland.

In Paris, the afternoon Gaullist-line Paris-Presse edition of the mass-circulation France-Soir summed up in a front-page headline: "A dramatic choice for Johnson — either he gives in to North Korea or he launches a new war."

The Catholic La Croix expressed the hope that the report of a United States request for Soviet intercession meant the Americans had already rejected the use of force.

In West Germany, Frankfurter Allegemeine Zeitung says in an article appearing tomorrow that if the Pueblo did operate in North Korean waters, which the paper says appears likely, the incident is "more a scandal than an act of piracy."

The Italian Government, like those in Paris and Bonn, refrained from comment.

Japanese Doubt Confrontation

Special to The New York Times

TOKYO, Jan. 24—Japanese Government officials have shown concern over the seizure of the Pueblo because it occurred in waters comparatively close to Japan, but they expressed doubt that the incident would develop into a "decisive military confrontation" between the United States and North Korea.

NEW YORK TIMES
25 January 1968 P17

SASEBO CLASHES WORRY JAPANESE

By ROBERT TRUMBULL

Special to The New York Times

TOKYO, Jan. 23 — The civil disturbances over the visit of a United States nuclear-powered aircraft carrier to Japan last week are being interpreted by many responsible Japanese as a warning of rough sailing for future defense arrangements between Tokyo and Washington.

Official statements here have made it clear that the Japanese Government has been taken aback by the strength of the demonstrations against the call of the carrier Enterprise at Sasebo, a medium-sized port city in southern Japan and the site of one of the two United States naval bases in this country. The other base is at Yokosuka, about 25 miles south of Tokyo.

While the leftist opposition to Premier Eisaku Sato's pro-Western Government organized the rallies which brought out close to 50,000 protesters on one occasion, it was noted by Japanese officials that a large number of "ordinary citizens" — not just activitists — participated in the demonstrations.

"We must take serious note of the fact that even ordinary citizens took part in Sunday's disorder in Sasebo." Toshio Kimura, chief secretary of the Cabinet, declared at a news conference.

The outbreaks in Sasebo and elsewhere have been described by their leftist sponsors as a dress rehearsal for the drive against continuation of the mutual security treaty between Japan and the United States when the pact comes up for review in 1970.

Statements by Mr. Kimura and others have indicated that the Government has been disturbed by the ease with which the leftists organized the Sasebo outbreaks, and is no longer scoffing at the threats by the Opposition that the planned anti-treaty demonstrations will rival the outbreaks that toppled the government when the pact was adopted in 1960.

The same disturbances forced the cancellation of a scheduled visit by Dwight D. Eisenhower, then President.

Mr. Kimura, whose position makes him the Government's official spokesman, expressed official concern over the riotous encounters in Sasebo Sunday afternoon between the police and protesters headed by left-wing student extremists.

Several hundred persons, mostly students, were reported injured in a series of clashes between stone-throwing youths and club-swinging police.

While the action was mainly in Sasebo, which became a goal for leftists from all over the country, there were smaller and sometimes violent demonstrations in Tokyo and other cities as well.

The Enterprise arrived in Sasebo last Friday on a recreational visit, with two escort vessels. The giant carrier left today, presumably en route to Vietenamese waters. The departure was apparently a day earlier than planned, but this could not be confirmed.

"It was evident that the visit created far greater repercussions in this country than the Government and the ruling party [the Liberal-Democrats, a conservative grouping headed by Mr. Sato] had planned, the pro-American, English-language newspaper Japan Times declared in its lead story today.

"The Government considers that the Enterprise's visit at Sasebo caused a different reaction this time from that in the cases of visits by nuclear-powered submarines, Mr. Kimura said.

Nuclear-powered submarines have been calling at Sasebo since November, 1964, and more recently at Yokosuka. Their appearance has been accomapnied by leftist-led demonstrations that have decreased in tempo as the arrivals became more frequent.

The arrival of the Enterprise, however, followed repeated statements by Mr. Sato calling for a greater "defense consciousness" on the part of the Japanese people.

Many Japanese fear that the Sato Goverment plans to build the country's present military force, a token establishment of fewer than 250,000 men, into another potential for making war—a nuclear war this time.

The whole question of rearmament and nuclearization has acquired an unpopular association with the involvement of the United States in Vietnam, which most Japanese are said to oppose.

WASHINGTON POST 25 January 1968 P24

Laos Denies Knowing Of U.S. Barrier Plan

Special to The Washington Post

VIENTIANE, Jan. 24—The Laotian government has not been informed of any United States plan to build an electronic warning system in Laos, but would not protest such a move, a government official said today.

Princess Moune, cabinet director of the Foreign Ministry and daughter of Laotian Premier Prince Souvanna Phouma, insisted that her father's government "will always oppose any violation of its territory."

"However," the Princess added, "if the U.S. Government is building this barrier, the Laotian government is unaware of it, and if it is the case, it will not lodge a protest."

[A monitored Laotian radio broadcast quoted the Lao Foreign Ministry as saying it would be "inadmissable" for the United States to construct such a barrier without informing the Laotian government, and that if the barrier were constructed, Laos would "protest strongly."]

The Princess, in her capacity as spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, was commenting on last Sunday's report by The Washington Post that the United States is installing an unmanned warning system across the Ho Chi Minh trails in Laos.

[Meanwhile, Souvanna Phouma said he would never ask for U.S. ground forces to help protect his country, despite growing Communist military pressure. Government troops were reported to have fallen back from Nam Nga, 35 miles north of Luang Prabang, after skirmishes with Communist Pathet Lao units. The troops pulled back five miles to Ban Coc Nang, news agencies reported.]

NEW YORK TIMES
25 January 1968 P12

Pueblo Outweighs Largest Of North Korea's Vessels

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (UPI) — The 906-ton intelligence ship Pueblo, tiny in comparrison with most American warships, would become the largest vessel in the North Korean Navy if her captors carried out their threat to keep her.

Naval records list nothing larger than two 540-ton fleet minesweepers in the North Korean Navy, with 9,020 men, consists of 17 submarine chasers, 21 torpedo boats, 20 coastal minesweepers, 26 auxiliary craft and 70 armed junks.

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NEW YORK TIMES
25 January 1968 P13

LOGISTICS IN WAR: ARMS, FOOD, SOAP

By THOMAS A. JOHNSON
Special to The New York Times

LONGBINH, South Vietnam, Jan. 23—The First Logistical Command, with more than 50,000 soldiers, is the largest single American unit in Vietnam and the most diversified.

Lieut. Col. Felix L. Goodwin recently described the military supplies and services operation in civilian terms.

He said: "You might say we are the supermarkets, port authorities, electric and water companies, truckers, ambulance companies, service stations, bakers, icemen, launderers, construction materials and ammunitions suppliers, librarians, resort operators, Army surplus dealers, Good Humor men — and then some."

With its headquarters on the sprawling military complex at Longbinh, 15 miles north of Saigon, the command serves combat and support units of all the "free world forces" in the II, III and IV Corps areas.

Navy Has I Corps

The United States Navy has responsibility for the I Corps area in the northern part of South Vietnam. Two supply points for the forward support area have been set up in the I Corps recently by the Army Command at Phubai, 10 miles south of Hué, and at Quangtri, just south of the demilitarized zone.

"These support areas are stockpiles of food and ammunition as well as portable showers and bakeries," said Colonel Goodwin, the command's information officer.

The First Logistical Command operates three major ports on the South China Sea — at Saigon, Camranh Bay and Quinhon — using both concrete piers constructed by the French and American-built systems of "floating piers."

Colonel Goodwin said that the major tie-ups that plagued Saigon a couple of years ago had been overcome.

"The new Delong floating piers and the new facilities at Newport in Saigon have really speeded things up," he said.

Supplies Getting Through

Pilferage and theft have been greatly curtailed, said Maj. Gen. Thomas H. Scott Jr., the commanding general of the First Logistical Command.

"Theft is not of any major significance," he said. "The vast majority of our supplies are getting where they belong. Theft is negligible."

He said that this was directly attributable to increased military police activity in and around the piers, to computerized record-keeping and to greater controls at the newly constructed piers.

"There is bound to be some degree of pilferage in any operation as big as this," the general said. "Every month we handle some 14 million tons of food, 9 million tons of fuel and 80,000 tons of ammunition."

The command, in addition to its own 30,000 United States Army officers and enlisted men, employs 40,000 Vietnamese, 2,000 American civilians and 8,000 Australians, South Koreans, and Filipinos. Its operating budget, just to handle the multi-billion dollars worth of supplies and equipment, comes to about $338-million a year.

$12-Million for Vegetables

"About $12-million a year is spent buying fresh vegetables for our mess halls from farms around Dalat," General Scott said.

More than 600 supply or service units come under the command. They include 50 ambulance helicopters to pick up wounded troops, a hospital for immediate surgery, front-line showers, graves registration units, water purification organizations, bakeries and ice-making plants.

Ice cream plants operated by the command often provide the deserts to go with the hot meals that combat units have come to expect when helicopter supply ships can get through to them.

And the command's special services run service clubs, produce "soldier shows" and run the only Vietnam-based rest-and-recuperation center at Vungtau on the South China Sea for 2,500 men a month.

WASHINGTON POST 25 January 1968 P24

India Getting 100 Soviet Planes; May Jeopardize Aid From U.S.

By Warren Unna
Washington Post Staff Writer

India has begun to receive delivery of more than 100 Soviet SU-7 supersonic jet fighter-bombers.

U. S. officials, while acknowledging that the purchase may be necessary for Indian defense needs, particularly against Communist China, are worried that it may have the side effect of costing India some U.S. aid.

Last year, Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.) and Rep. Silvio O. Conte (R-Mass.) wrote into the foreign aid bill three amendments designed to penalize U.S. aid recipients for diverting their resources into military expenditures.

U.S. officials have just come to know about the Indian purchase from the Soviets. While they never have been privy to past Indian arms acquisitions from the Communist world, they feel they were "misled" when they began inquiring about this one some months ago.

Actually, U.S. officials noted, India first approached the United States several years ago in its search for jets, indicating an interest in both the F-5 Starfighter and the F-101 Voodoo. India was turned down by the United States, which did not want to heat up the arms race between India and the U.S. military ally that borders it, Pakistan.

While the Soviet SU-7 is described by officials here as "not the hottest thing Moscow has," it nonetheless is regarded as an impressive plane. Cost estimates vary since the Soviets and their East European ally, Czechoslavakia, charge different prices to different customers. But on an average, the SU-7 usually costs around $1 million.

U.S. officials are not arguing with the Indian desire to replace obsolete equipment while still holding down its military budget. The SU-7 is to replace older Vampire and Toofani planes, and India has assured the United States the new acquisitions will not raise her earlier force level.

India and Pakistan each spend a little less than 4 per cent of their national budgets on defense, although this figure has varied from year to year as each acquired big orders of new equipment.

For almost five years now, India has been getting Soviet Migs and Mig factories the Soviets helped the Indians to build in their own country now are beginning to turn out Indian Migs.

NEW YORK TIMES 25 January 1968 P3

SPAIN WARNS U.S. ON GIBRALTAR USE

By TAD SZULC
Special to The New York Times

MADRID, Jan. 24—Spain served a virtual ultimatum on the United States today to cease using Gibraltar as a Sixth Fleet turn-over base or to lose hospitality privileges in Spanish Mediterranean posts.

The Spanish communication, requesting American assurances that United States ships would no longer touch at Gibraltar—a British colony claimed by Spain and also a North Atlantic Treaty Organization base—was delivered orally by a high Foreign Ministry official to a senior official of the United States Embassy here who had been summoned to the mnnistry.

According to Spanish diplomatic sources, the protest emphasized that Spanish ports between the French fontier and the Bay of Algeciras, which faces Gibraltar, would no longer be available to shops of the United States Sixth Fleet, operating in the Mediterranean, if the American vessels continued to enter Gibraltar.

The Spanish communication likewise warned that routine joint United States-Spanish amphibious landing operations along the Spanish Coast would be discontinued if the United States did not meet Spain's demand to stay away from Gibraltar.

One such exercise, involving a United States Marine Corps contingent and Spanish forces, if being carried out along the coast of Almeria province, where two years ago four hydrogen bombs were lost in an air collision between a B-52 jet bomber and a KC 135 refueling tanker.

The Spanish argument, as presented to American officials today, alleged that the United States was violating its self-declared policy of neutrality in the British-Spanish dispute over Gibraltar by allowing its vessels to turn around in the colony when ships were being phased in or out into the Sixth Fleet.

The normal practice is that when ships being assigned to the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean reach Gibraltar they meet with the ships they replace for exchange of information and other nautical data.

The United States counter argument is that the American concept of neutrality would precisely be violated if the Sixth Fleet vessels abandoned the use of Gibraltar's facilities after 15 years of continued use for these purposes.

Spain's oral note suggested —although its meaning was not entirely clear to American officials tonight—that the ban on the Sixth Fleet's use of Spanish Mediterranean ports would become effective immediately unless Washington offered instant guarantees that it would no longer avail itself of Gibraltar's facilities, which include a drydock.

For the last 15 years, the Sixth Fleet has used such Spanish Mediterranean ports as Palma and Puerto de Pollensa, on the island of Majorca, Barcelona, Valencia and Alicante for bunkering, supplies and crew liberties.

The specific Spanish complaint today was that 14 United States ships used Gibraltar's facilities last week and that 20 had entered Gibraltar in the days last September preceding a British-held plebiscite as to whether the colony's people preferred to remain British or to accept Spanish allegiance. The plebiscite was overwhelmingly in favor of retaining British ties.

However, diplomats here immediately related today's Spanish communication to the already initiated negotiations for the renewal of the Spanish-American military bases agreement expiring next September.

The growing impression in diplomatic quarters here has been that Spain will insist on United States support for her case for Gibraltar, against Britain, as the chief price for the renewal of the pact under which the United States has the joint use in Spain of three Air Force bases, a nuclear polaris submarine base at Rota and several classified naval facilities.

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BALTIMORE SUN 25 January 1968 P1

Bonn Discord On Atom Pact Is Said To Endanger NATO

By STUART S. SMITH
(Bonn Bureau of The Sun)

Bonn, Jan. 24—Massive official and unofficial West German attacks on the proposed nuclear nonproliferation treaty threaten to seriously disrupt the Atlantic alliance, diplomatic officials said here today.

In an editorial written for next Friday's issue, the *Bayern-Kurier*, a political weekly published by Franz Josef Strauss, vehemently condemned the new treaty draft and urged Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger not to sign it.

Strauss, the Federal Finance Minister and a key political figure in Kiesinger's Cabinet, has threatened to resign if the Chancellor ignores his warning.

Yesterday Kiesinger said that in the new Soviet-American treaty version "improvements have been obtained here and there but they were by no means such that we could say today: We accept this treaty."

Today the West German Cabinet agreed the treaty is still imperfect and indorsed talks with Washington and other capitals to get additional changes made, it was announced at a press conference.

Political officers in a Western embassy noted that even if Bonn does eventually sign the nuclear agreement, its present opposition and the exceedingly negative publicity accompanying it in the press has already done substantial harm.

The West German public has been aroused by the unfavorable comment and misled into believing that they are being faced with another take-it-or-leave-it order from Moscow and Washington, these officials stated.

In any event, the West German newspapers are in full bay. Strauss' paper said the treaty has become the "chief problem of German politics" and accused the "clever atomic accomplices" of trying to dictate to the world.

If the treaty is signed, *Mayers-Kurier* continued, "NATO would become a comedy as it would have to renounce the clear definition of the enemy because of the Geneva cliquism."

American troops would guarantee the inviolability of the Berlin Wall and the Iron Curtain, and the European Common Market "would stagnate," the editorial alleged, adding:

"Even France, which clearly recognized the Geneva trap, could no longer accept a shackled Germany as a sovereignly acting political power."

What is more, the paper charged, "our signature under any treaty draft—even the next one and the next after that—could mean, not de jure but de facto, the renunciation of [German] reunification."

The paper even predicted the controversy might bring down Kiesinger's Grand Coalition Government and, in conclusion, suggested that the Chancellor's recognition of all these factors might give him the courage to draw the proper conclusions and reject the treaty.

Last week *Bayern-Kurier* claimed that "well informed people" realize "the treaty cannot work" and know that "in case its signing is compelled, the security of almost all states, above all the Federal Republic's, will suffer damage."

"The United States is cutting into its own flesh with the crazy idea of the non-proliferation treaty," it asserted.

However, Strauss paper is by no means the only strident West German voice. The *Welt Am Sonntag* last Sunday charged the treaty still had "many loopholes" from the German point of view and remarked that Bonn should have first studied the draft closely instead of welcoming it right away.

Sueddeutsche Zeitung, a respected liberal paper published in Munich, commented last Friday, "Now as before Washington and Moscow are resolved to protect their nuclear monopoly with all means at their disposal . . . without even indicating readiness to dismantle their own arsenals. What is even worse is this: the signers will remain for good and evil dependent upon the good will of the two giants who control reactors and fuel. . . ."

On the same day *Muenchner Merkur*, a daily Munich paper which supports the Christian Social Union party, which Strauss heads, ran a story with the headline: "Superpowers Agree on NPT—Fate of Nuclear Have-Nots Jeopardized."

The article went on to read: "The fate of the nuclear have-nots seems to be sealed. . . . The control functions of the Euratom authority would be largely eliminated."

Diplomatic officials pointed out that many of the articles being written here about the treaty contain irresponsibly incorrect statements, such as the reference to Euratom controls being eliminated.

In an editorial, the same paper, commented "It is time to recall Kiesinger's reference" to the treaty being "a form of atomic complicity." Although the Government would like to forget the phrase, the *Muenchner Merkur* asserted, "this term meets the point."

Yesterday, at a speech before the Christian Democratic party journalists, Kiesinger was asked about the "atomic complicity" remark, which he made before the same group eleven months ago.

The Chancellor replied that he had dropped this "little bomb" to get the American-German talks going.

Last Saturday in a Rome speech Walter Hallstein, the West German president of the European movement and former Common Market Commission president, joined the assault, commenting." . . . Even now we are bound to oppose the nonproliferation treaty in its present form. Its section on control arrangements destroys the achievements of Euratom. And one more serious defect is the lack of any clause which upholds the nuclear defense interests of Europe. Not even for its own defense would Europe be entitled to have nuclear explosives at its disposal!

Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger and Vice Chancellor Willy Brandt are expected to discuss the treaty during their trips to Rome and Paris next month.

In Paris yesterday Pierre Messmer, the French Defense Minister, called the treaty "a policy of castrating the chaste." "We believe it is a policy doomed to failure," he added.

BALTIMORE SUN 25 January 1968 P4

Latin Military Review Proposed

(Washington Bureau of The Sun)

Washington, Jan. 24 (AP)—Prospects for multi-national review of Latin America's military expenditures have improved, sources said today.

The Inter-American Committee on the Alliance for Progress is considering whether it should conduct the review or should turn it over to a specially created agency.

A final decision will be made at the body's next meeting, set for spring. The proposal was informally discussed at the two-day closed door meeting held by the committee here earlier this week to review the progress of the Alliance.

Considerable concern has been expressed about increasing military expenditures in the hemisphere as both Peru and Brazil give indications of purchasing supersonic French Mirage jets—and setting off demands from other countries for similar equipment.

The position of the United States has been complicated by amendments to the Foreign Aid Act requiring the trimming of aid to Latin countries that purchase sophisticated weapons such as jets.

It is understood that the review was proposed by Sol M. Linowitz, the United States Ambassador to the Organization of American States, who is the United States representative on the committee.

Meanwhile, Linowitz told a House foreign affairs subcommittee that steps have been taken to improve the financial operations of the OAS which came under fire from the body. An investigation of alleged irregularities in some of its offices is under way.

The envoy later told newsmen he had reason to hope the fifth ballot to choose a new secretary general for the OAS would prove decisive. There have been reports that Eduardo Ritter Aislan, Panama's ambassador and the front-running candidate, will withdraw, but Linowitz said he had no concrete information.

NEW YORK TIMES 25 January 1968 P7

PACIFICATION GAINS REPORTED BY KOMER

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Jan. 24 (Reuters)—The civilian leader of American pacification efforts reported today that 67 per cent of the South Vietnamese people now lived in areas secure from the Vietcong.

"That means that 11½ million people of South Vietnam's 17½ million population now live in secure or reasonably secure areas," said the official, Robert W. Komer.

This was an increase of 1.3 million people over 1966, he said. The figures included about 440,000 people evacuated by American troops as well as refugees and the flow of people to such cities as Saigon and Danang, which are officially listed as secure.

The figures show only the number living in secure areas and do not necessarily indicate pro-Government or anti-Vietcong sympathies.

Mr. Komer, a special representative of President Johnson, said that 16.6 per cent of the people, or 2.9 million, lived in Vietcong-controlled hamlets and that 16.5 or 2.8 million people lived in contested hamlets.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE 25 January 1968 P2

U. S. A-FLIGHTS RISKING DANGER, RUSS CHARGE

MOSCOW, Jan. 24 (UPI)—The soviet press today said the United States air force was risking disaster by sending nuclear-armed plants aloft.

The news agencq Tass said the crash of a B-52 and loss of hydrogen bombs in Greenland has shown again what tragic consequences might result from the continued flights of United States strategic air command bombers near the territories of United States allies.

The military newspaper Red Star said it will be impossible to recover the bombs soon "so there is a real danger of an explosion or radioactive contamination."

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EDITORIALS

WASHINGTON NEWS
24 JANUARY 1968 (25)

The Pueblo Incident

WITH the Vietnam war blazing fiercely, the United States doesn't need any more entanglements, incidents or blunders, especially in Asia. But we suddenly have a first class problem with the USS Pueblo. The whole ship, intact, with 83-man crew, was captured by North Korean gunboats without a shot fired. It sounds preposterous, but there it is.

The important thing is to obtain release of ship and crew without touching off a new blaze. Despite some hawkish cries from Capitol Hill, let us try diplomacy, thru the Soviet Union and Japan, North Korea's neighbors, but we must insist on prompt return of the captured vessel.

But how did it happen, and why? The why seems easier to answer: the communist regime in Pyongyang, angered by the sizable contribution its South Korean rival is making in South Vietnam, has been stirring up trouble for months.

The seizure of the Pueblo comes just two days after the daring commando raid in Seoul aimed at assassinating South Korean President Park Chung-hee. And that abortive attempt capped more than a year of sharply stepped-up infiltration and sabotage. It should be no mystery to any American — including U.S. Navy officers in the area — that North Korea is distinctly hostile territory.

But was the Pueblo in North Korean waters and thus liable to attack or seizure, as the communists claim? The Pentagon says no, the ship was well away from shore — at the time it was taken in tow, at least.

Unfortunately, even in our own country there is not too much faith in the Pentagon's version of incidents like this one — considering the "cover" stories on major incidents over the years.

In our judgment there was no wisdom or prudence in positioning an "intelligence collection auxiliary ship" — slow (12 knots) and virtually unarmed (two .50-caliber machineguns) — close in off Wonsan harbor.

Of course our Navy has the right to "freedom of the high seas." But the more pertinent question is: Is it smart for the Navy to steer such a ship, unprotected, around in a known dangerous neighborhood? Let's stop leading with our chin, particularly when we don't have our dukes up.

PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN
24 JANUARY 1968 (25)

Act of Aggression

There will be little if any equivocation among the people of the United States on the seizure of the U.S.S. Pueblo: the ship must be released intact with its crew unharmed, and soon.

How this should be accomplished may be a matter of discussion; the project would appear admirably suited to the ministrations of the United Nations —the Korean conflict has been in the UN's hands from the start, after all. But with or without the help of the international organization, the ship must be released.

Why did this incident, which seems so unmistakably warlike, occur? It is clearly a part of North Korea's accelerating campaign of harassment along the South Korean border and incursions into the south, the latest being Sunday's raid by 31 North Koreans attempting to assassinate President Park.

But why? There could be many answers. It could be an attempt to get us to divert manpower from Vietnam, the creation of a two-front war. It may be pressure on the South Koreans to pull back some of their 50,000 troops in Vietnam or, at least, to keep them from sending any more. And it has been suggested that one aim is to becloud the waters of South Korean politics.

One thing it is not likely to do is soften the feeling of Americans toward the war in Asia. If Ho Chi Minh really has been counting on the dissent of many Americans from the Administration's war policy, the North Koreans could have done nothing more calculated to rally the dissenters around the flag.

A problem that this country will have, in fact, is to restrain a "Remember the Maine" sentiment from building up to a demand to blow the harbor of Wonsan off the map. But our power must be used with a view to consequences: The events of recent years would seem to ensure that.

KANSAS CITY STAR
22 JANUARY 1968 (25)

CLIFFORD IS A STRONG CHOICE FOR DEFENSE SECRETARY

IF his performance matches his reputation for brilliance, dedication and an innovative mind, Clark Clifford could become the nation's second fully effective secretary of defense. The first of that eminence is the present secretary, Robert S. McNamara, who will leave his spacious office at the Pentagon by March 1 to take over as president of the World Bank.

One quality that Clifford and McNamara share is exceptional brain power. Yet their intellects are quite different. McNamara is the superb organizer and master of facts and figures. But he has often riled others of high rank in the government, especially generals, admirals and members of Congress who have complained that McNamara seemed to be talking down to them. Even so, he got results. He was the first of the eight secretaries of defense who brought the ponderous military apparatus entirely under his personal control and thus could deal efficiently with its enormous costs.

In personality, Clifford is a different type. No less earnest than McNamara, he is smoother in manner and not so likely to ruffle tempers either in the conference rooms of the Pentagon or while testifying on Capitol Hill. McNamara put together much of the machinery for a more unified military program. In one way Clifford may be even better qualified to run the defense organization. On the record he would seem to favor leading by persuasiveness rather than by the McNamara approach of depending as much or more on computers as on human advice.

Clifford can be judged publicly both by his work as a chief presidential assistant in the Truman administration and by his subsequent standing as one of the most successful corporation lawyers in Washington. When he first achieved prominence as a naval aide and then top White House assistant, Clifford was described as the man who came to lunch with President Truman and then stayed to make himself indispensable. A gifted writer of presidential messages and speeches, Clifford had a major part in setting up the structure of the Defense department in 1947 and in planning the Turkish-Greek aid undertaking that was the keystone in the U. S. policy of containing communism.

Now the astute Clifford declines to be identified as either a dove or a hawk in the Vietnam war. But it can be assumed that his views are close to those of his long-time friend, President Johnson, both on how to fight the war and how to seek the peace. Kansas-born, Missouri-educated Clark Clifford has the way of a determined moderate in government. He also appears to have the background and ability to handle one of the world's toughest and most powerful jobs.

DENVER POST
22 JANUARY 1968 (25)

Clark Clifford Moves Onstage

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S nomination of Clark Clifford, Washington attorney, as secretary of defense replacing Robert McNamara is a move that makes good sense in an election year.

The President wants someone in the Pentagon who is acquainted with foreign and domestic policies—and the political ramifications thereof. Clifford, as a long-time Democratic party technician, is capable of delivering such a careful, effective performance.

How good he will be as an administrator remains to be seen. But he will be a man on whom the President can depend at a time of great need. We expect speedy approval of Clifford's appointment when he comes before the Senate.

NEWPORT NEWS DAILY PRESS
22 JANUARY 1968 (25)

Clark Clifford's Call To Service

Clark M. Clifford is one of President Johnson's closest friends, but it was not altogether an act of friendship to choose him as the next Secretary of Defense. It is a back-breaking assignment to run the infinitely complex, $80 billion a year defense establishment in the midst of the most frustrating of wars. Much more comfortable was Mr. Clifford's role as unofficial counselor without administrative burdens.

The reasons for the choice are evident. A man was picked who is no stranger to Defense Department affairs, who has the confidence of Congress and the executive family, and has also been in close touch with the conduct of the war. He has proved valuable in negotiations with big business, is adept in the arts of diplomacy, knows how to keep a confidence, and has no aspirations for higher office.

Even more to the point, the Secretary-designate fully supports the war and the Johnson administration's declared goals in Southeast Asia, and has had much to do with formulating Vietnam decisions. He is unlikely to be so torn apart as Secretary McNamara has been in implementing White House decisions but can reasonably be expected to be other than a yes man. One who has given advice to three Presidents and has had much of it heeded should continue to impell respect for his views and to voice them freely.

Quite apparently Mr. Clifford didn't want to be put on this hot spot. He would have preferred to continue his lucrative law practice and his weighty behind-the-scenes activities. But he succumbed to the President's blandishments and his own high sense of responsibility. Whether he will serve effectively in the unfamiliar capacity of administrator for a giant government department however is something that only time will tell.

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WASHINGTON STAR 24 JAN (25)

The Pueblo Incident

As might be expected, the seizure by the North Koreans of the Navy eavesdropping ship, the Pueblo, has touched off a mighty roll of rhetorical thunder in Congress. Many of those who have no direct responsibility for the application of this country's terrible military power demanded immediate military action or, at the least, the proclamation of an ultimatum.

The ultimatum and the application of military power are—quite literally—the last actions the United States should take.

The capture of the Pueblo and the casualties inflicted upon its crew are, without any question, highly provocative acts. It is, as the White House has said, a very serious incident. It is the first such seizure ever by a foreign power with which the United States was not at war, and the first capture of a U.S. Navy ship since February 4, 1862, when a Union cutter was seized in Galveston harbor.

In earlier days, when the power of the United States was limited to the weapons of conventional warfare and when the adversaries were more evenly matched, such insults to the flag and to the national dignity were considered acts of war. But today, the instinctive reaction of outrage must be tempered by a realization of the awesome power that this nation possesses and of the consequences of a major war to all mankind. Military force should be applied only as a last resort.

The reaction by the President and his advisers has been to seek the offices of the Soviet Union—which is fully aware of the somber consequences of a full-scale war—to talk sense to the North Koreans. This diplomatic thrust was coupled with a flexing of military muscle. The nuclear carrier Enterprise led a task force north from Japan for Korean waters. And that, for openers, was what was required.

The Pueblo affair is no isolated incident. Guerrilla raids into the South and other provocations have been increasing steadily in number and seriousness in recent months. During 1966, 50 such incidents were reported. In 1967, there were 543. And in this week have come the most serious provocations since the 1953 armistice, the infiltration of the assassination and sabotage team into Seoul and the boarding and capture of the Pueblo.

Some observers fear that this stepped-up activity could be the prelude to an outbreak of open warfare. But it seems highly unlikely that the North Koreans, if they were in fact preparing to resume major hostilities, would be accommodating enough to signal their intentions beforehand. In all probability, the purpose of the incidents has been to bolster morale on the home front, to keep a part of the United States military strength in the area pinned down, and to prevent the deployment of more ROK troops to South Vietnam.

So North Korea continues to tweak Uncle Sam's beard. And, in recognition of the size and strength of the diminutive aggressor, we have—so far—managed quite properly to hold our temper in check.

WALL STREET JOURNAL 25 JAN 68

Johnson termed arms control "the most urgent business of our time" and asked Congress to extend for three years the life of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. In letters to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House, the President said the agency played a central role in installation of the Washington-Moscow hot line and in the treaty aimed at barring the spread of nuclear weapons.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER 25 JANUARY 1968

They Seized Our Ship

Communist North Korea has committed an act of piracy against a ship of the U. S. Navy and its crew. This constitutues a limited aggression against the United States that is, in the language of the diplomats, a matter of "utmost gravity." The American people should recognize the seriousness of the situation and the possible consequences.

The Government in Washington should move firmly and responsibly in dealing with this crisis. It is not a time for recklessness or undue haste, but it is not a time for excessive timidity or prolonged indecision, either.

The Communist regime in North Korea, which made a disastrous miscalculation in 1950 resulting in war with the United States, should be given clear warning of the far greater dangers involved now in underestimating America's resolve to protect its interests.

While diplomacy is exerted at all levels to avert armed conflict, and while U. S. military forces are deployed in preparation for whatever may be required of them, it is essential that relevant details be obtained on the confrontation at sea and subsequent developments.

The North Koreans contend that the Pueblo, a reconnaissance vessel apparently on a routine information-gathering mission, sailed within 12 miles of shore and therefore invaded what North Korea claims to be its coastal waters. Official U. S. accounts of the incident indicate the ship was much farther off shore and in international waters.

A point to be emphasized here is that seizure of the Pueblo and its crew was unjustified in any event. If the North Koreans believed the ship to be too close to shore, the proper procedure would have been to order its withdrawal. Failure to get immediate response in such a situation might have warranted a warning shot across the bow. In no circumstances, even if the North Korean version of what happened is accepted, was the capture of the ship a responsible act.

Another disturbing question is why U. S. air cover was not provided for this unarmed ship in a dangerous area. American military authorities owe an explanation as to how the Pueblo could be boarded in international waters and towed to a North Korean port with no exercise of U. S. air or sea power to prevent this humiliating kidnap of 83 Navy men.

It is imperative that the U. S. Government deal with this crisis not only with firmness but with all available facts in hand.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

21 JANUARY 1968 (25)

New Defense Secretary

Clark McAdams Clifford, a former St. Louisan, has often been mentioned as a possible successor to Secretary of Defense McNamara, so President Johnson's announcement that he will nominate Mr. Clifford for the Pentagon post came as no great surprise. Mr. Clifford has made a fortune in his Washington law practice and has been reported available for public service.

There is no doubt that Mr. Clifford is an able executive with a much-better-than-average understanding of the ways of Washington bureaucrats. He was special counsel to President Truman from 1946 to 1950, and served as Mr. Truman's principal speech writer in the 1948 campaign. He has since remained on close terms with the movers and shakers in the nation's capital and has carried out a number of White House assignments, including chores for Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Clifford is noted for being realistic and hard-headed and an expert political strategist, but he has not been noted for taking public positions, popular or otherwise. He would not have been selected had he not been in agreement with the Administration's Asian policy, and the chances are that he will try to carry out Mr. Johnson's instructions without cavil.

He is entitled to be judged on how he handles the job, however, and not on deductions from his big-business and political connections. A Secretary of Defense ought to have the character to assert the constitutional civilian supremacy over the military, and at the same time to place his views persuasively before the President even when they run counter to White House policy — indeed, especially when they conflict with it.

Mr. Clifford will have the opportunity to put his unquestioned abilities to good use in the service of the country at a critical time; the way he measures up to the challenge may have a profound effect on the nation's future. soning has as much to do with how much the state court dislikes the economy or social system of country X as whether its government would, indeed, interfere with the bequest.

So American justice is led astray by cold war prejudices to do approximately what it suspects some foreign country might do. This hardly contributes to amicable foreign relations, as the Supreme Court said. Neither is it justice.

2-E

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

25 JANUARY 1968

RHODESIA AND THE F-111

Barry Goldwater said last month that he suspected—"it is merely a suspicion"—that Britain agreed to buy the controversial F-111 jet fighter-bomber from the United States in exchange for our continued support of its sanctions against Rhodesia.

Mr. Goldwater may have given the administration more credit for wisdom than it deserves. We've been wondering what conceivable benefit this country could derive by supporting sanctions against a stable and friendly country — sanctions which were conceived largely out of vengeance and which are not working anyway.

Now Britain has canceled the order for the 50 jets because of its economic troubles. If there really was a trade, as Mr. Goldwater suspects, then our government can seize this chance to get out of a messy situation with a minimum of embarrassment by calling off our part in the vendetta against Rhodesia—which, after all, has been costing us a good deal of money, and to no advantage.

Or does Washington prefer to compound its folly by sitting tight and waiting for the $64 fiasco?

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CHICAGO DAILY NEWS 24 JANUARY 1968 (25)

Walking on nuclear eggs

The B-52 crash off Greenland is a fresh reminder that U.S. aircraft laden with hydrogen bombs are aloft every minute of every hour of every day, awaiting only the signal to deliver their fantastic destruction to any designated target on earth.

Luckily it is virtually impossible to explode nuclear weapons unless they are "armed" — that is, deliberately triggered to detonate. Arming would occur only when the aircraft began closing on the target.

Still, it seems likely that problems involved in the perpetual lofting of the world's most formidable destructive weapons will increase with the passage of time. The Defense Department lists 15 previous accidents in the past decade involving the accidental dropping or crashing of nuclear bombs. Only one of these—the collision over Spain of a B-52 and a tanker plane last January—occurred over foreign territory or waters. But there is unhappily no reason to suppose that this week's incident in Danish territory will be the last to have international reverberations.

The shudders provoked by such accidents are not wholly unwarranted. Two of the four nuclear bombs involved in the Spain crash broke open and released radioactive material in a populated area. While there is evidently no danger of detonation with the four bombs lost along the Greenland coast, there is evidence that one or more of them did crack up, strewing plutonium and creating poisonous radiation. And even without harm to persons or property, the emotional impact of the mishap in Danish territory was sufficient to be an issue in Tuesday's national elections in Denmark. Two newspapers there promptly accused the United States of breaking an agreement to avoid carrying nuclear weapons over Danish air space, and charged the Danish government with trying to hide the facts.

That these ugly incidents will occur is part of the price of maintaining security in a perilous age. Yet it is manifestly important for the Defense Department to exercise the utmost caution regarding air space of other nations. And it can be hoped that in time the aerial nuclear patrol can be phased out entirely, and its functions assigned to landbased missiles and the growing Polaris submarine fleet.

PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN
24 JANUARY 1968 (25)

Accident Off Greenland

Fortunately, the circumstances reported concerning the crash of an Air Force B-52 near the joint Danish-American-NATO base at Thule give no reason for undue concern either in Copenhagen or in Washington. The H-bombs the patrol plane carried on airborne alert were not in firing readiness and could not explode. Oceanographers and atomic energy experts, after their experience off Palomares, Spain, see no danger even if the casings cracked and released fissionable material into the sea.

Finding the bombs, they say, will be much easier in a depth of water much less than they encountered in the Mediterranean deeps. Although the agreement of 1951 prohibits carrying nuclear bombs over Danish territories, authorities at Copenhagen recognized that a forced landing caused by fire in the cockpit of the B-52 does not constitute an infraction of the treaty.

Denmark, a member of NATO, holds Greenland largely because in April, 1941, when the Nazis took over the homeland, a special agreement with the United States permitted American forces to move into Greenland, for its protection. Collective security entails risks as well as benefits, as this accident proves, and the Danes seem prepared to recognize that fact.

The incident is also a reminder that in the present state of world affairs, we are obliged to maintain a 24-hour airborne alert on the perimeter of the non-Communist world. Considering the burden laid on Strategic Air Command for nearly 20 years, the wonder is that so few mishaps have occurred to mar its record of service.

WASHINGTON POST 25 JANUARY 1968

Nuclear Accident

The crash of the B-52 carrying four hydrogen bombs, however terrifying in potential, in fact evidences the great skill and care with which these weapons are handled. There was no explosion when the plane, on fire, went down off the Greenland coast, and since the bombs were unarmed they will not explode, the Defense Department avers.

That search crews detected radiation is disturbing, but the type found (alpha radiation) is not lethal unless inhaled in large doses, and the site is remote from populated areas. Although the health hazard may be modest, the radiation does lend a psychological and political impetus to efforts at recovering the bombs. It is not yet known whether they are imbedded in the surface ice or lying at the bottom of a deep, dark, cold sea.

The United States can breathe in relief that the bombs plunged into an uninhabited area and did not scatter fissionable materials. These factors were otherwise in the last such accident, at Palomares, Spain, in 1966.

In explaining the accident and any subsequent recovery efforts, American officials should take special pains to be open and forthcoming; the tight-lipped information policy followed at Palomares badly and needlessly exacerbated the situation there. Danes are quite naturally anxious over the accident and Denmark is a loyal NATO ally. The people and government deserve a full measure of American solicitude.

It should be noted that the plane, crashing offshore, did not violate Denmark's ban on nuclear overflights; Greenland is Danish territory. The protests in Denmark seem to have issued from that small number of citizens predisposed to use the accident for political ammunition. Fortunately, missiles, which remain surface-bound until fired, are replacing airplanes which carry their terror overhead.

NEW YORK POST 24 JANUARY 1968 (25)

The Warnings From Thule and Wonsan Bay

At this season of the year, some of the jagged pack ice on North Star Bay southwest of Thule in Greenland is nine feet thick, and the relentless wind, searching for men to strike with its frozen fist, sweeps over an Arctic desert illuminated only a few hours a day by eerie twilight; the longer night is a suffocating shroud of cold.

But it is neither the ice nor the wind that makes the news from Thule most chilling. It is dread. Lost somewhere in that bitter wilderness, after the crash of an Air Force bomber in which one man died, are four hydrogen bombs—every one of which is capable, for a deadly instant at least, of scorching even the icy mantle of Greenland itself.

The Pentagon has issued the usual reassuring bulletins, and the agonizing search is under way. But there will be no absolute assurance until these packages of death have been recovered intact. Beyond that, there is no firm hope of avoiding more of these terrifying accidents until all the men who possess and flourish the weapons of "megadeath" finally resolve to lay them aside forever.

The U. S. and the Soviet Union have just come to terms on a complete draft of a new weapon control treaty. At the same time, both are embarked on deployment of anti-missile defense systems, which are not monuments to developing trust but new symbols of suspicion. Even high on the west coast of Greenland, well above the Arctic Circle, there is a summer respite from the darkness and cold. The new treaty offers the promise of a partial thaw in the cold war; it may give way to another bleak season unless responsible leaders of East and West finally face the implications of such accidents as the disaster at Thule.

* * *

The episode provides a grim background for the new crisis created by the North Korean capture of the U. S. naval intelligence ship Pueblo. Many questions remain unanswered about that ominous development as this is written. They will be explored in detail here tomorrow when additional information may be at hand. But no new data is needed to recognize that we have again been reminded—from both Thule to Wonsan Bay—that humanity is living precariously on borrowed time.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
25 JANUARY 1968

Nuclear Controls

(Kansas City Times)

The awaited final agreement would not wipe out the threat of nuclear warfare. It is doubtful that two of the five present nuclear powers — Red China and France — will join the U. S., Russia and Britain in any system of voluntary controls. But the greatest danger that menaces this planet today could be considerably reduced. If the progress at Geneva produces a nonproliferation treaty, sealed and delivered, much will have been accomplished toward living permanently at peace with the most destructive force known to man.

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR 25 JANUARY 1968

'From Greenland's icy mountains'

There have now been some 16 incidents or mishaps involving atomic or hydrogen bombs and the United States Air Force. In no case has there been an explosion, although two of four unarmed hydrogen bombs dropped in Spain two years ago released radioactive material. Thus the once-feared likelihood of a holocaust from some such incident has receded. The blastfast safety devices appear to be comfortingly effective.

Yet, having said this, it is obvious that none of us ever will or ever should become easy-minded over or thoughtlessly reconciled to the existence of nuclear explosives anywhere — in the air, under the sea, in reinforced concrete silos, in caves, in warehouses or in tactical weaponry. And the latest mishap — over Greenland — only underlines this.

Diplomatically the incident is causing and will continue for some time to cause embarrassment to the United States. All Communists and many non-Communists alike will again speak of these atomic flights as provocative and as proving America's warward bent. It will not be enough to point out that Russian bombs on Russian soil but pointed outwards are also threatening.

Nor do we find it hard to understand the protest meetings held by young Danes before the American Embassy in Copenhagen upon word of the mishap. Under these circumstances demands such as "Away with atom aircraft" and "Stop the USA's death flights" can be expected from people (not merely in Denmark but everywhere) who feel caught and helpless in a world overshadowed by hydrogen hecatombs.

If there is any good to be found in such incidents as that over Greenland, it is in the growth of world sentiment against *all* nuclear weapons under *all* circumstances. Some firmly rooted conviction in the world's conscience tells us that the time must inevitably come when all such ghastly devices must and will be done away with. Greenland cannot help but have given a shove to this growing resolution.

In commenting the other day on the American-Russian agreement on the draft of a nuclear nonproliferation treaty, we said: "The need remains urgent further to widen and stiffen these rules. Perhaps the next step should be negotiation of an agreement not to be the first to use nuclear weapons."

This, we believe would be a giant step forward. But even that should not turn men's eyes from the true goal — the elimination from earth of all nuclear weapons.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH 1/22(25)

'Self-Destructive Fantasy'

In saying that the Administration is the victim of its own "self-destructive fantasy" in Vietnam, Senator Aiken swept aside all its turgid explanations with revealing clarity. By striking out against "world Communism," he said, the Administration involved itself with "an elusive and almost indefinable enemy," and became "the prisoner of its own bad rhetoric," a victim of its own illogical propaganda.

Mistakes of such magnitude are for recognizing and correcting, not for compounding. Yet as the Vermont Republican said, the Johnson Administration is making "a huge military commitment simply because (it) did not have the wit, the imagination or the courage to devise a political strategy to suit a political problem."

Instead of taking an honest and honorable way out of a misadventure, increasingly costly in American and Asiatic lives, in its economic effects, and to our standing in the world, Administration spokesmen such as Vice President Humphrey persist in irrelevancies. "You cannot appease and have peace." Keeping commitments is "what it's all about in Vietnam." "If we don't wiggle and wobble we will make it clear we are a resolute people." Resolute in involving ourselves ever more deeply in an Asian war in defiance of our national interest?

Does it really come down to the misconception that a mistake once made must be compounded, regardless of cost? Such a course brings inevitable revulsion. For its own sake, the Administration should heed Senator Aiken and muster a modicum of wit, imagination, courage and political good sense.

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS 24 JANUARY 1968 (25)

Case for the Hot Line

If the hot line that links President Johnson's study with the Kremlin has not been very busy in the last 24 hours it should have been.

The seizure of the USS Pueblo by North Korean forces is grave enough in itself. It becomes much more ominous when seen as part of the pattern of escalating Communist violence not only in Korea but in Vietnam and Laos as well. There is strong evidence this is a co-ordinated effort and it seems highly improbable that it could be undertaken without reference to Soviet authorities who supply most of the training and means.

The seizure coincides with the heaviest armed intrusion by North Korean soldiers into the South Korean capital of Seoul since the armistice in 1953, and follows a tenfold increase during 1967 of serious incidents provoked by the North Koreans along the demarcation line.

The Pueblo admittedly was an intelligence and oceanographic ship, but it has every right to operate in international waters along with the profusion of electronically equipped Soviet trawlers that perform similar missions. Slow, small, armed only with two .50-caliber machineguns, the Pueblo was not the type of vessel for a deliberate foray into hostile waters, as the North Koreans contend.

Even before the Pueblo's capture, Washington had been puzzling over the contradictions in Communist behavior. Demands for an end of the bombing in Vietnam have been accompanied by an offensive buildup against U.S. forces at Khe Sanh and open Communist attacks in Laos that make any letup by the Americans almost impossible.

Moscow cannot shrug off a share of responsibility for the actions of its allies any more than can the United States, and this is what the hot line should be saying very bluntly. If the Soviet Union has any genuine interest in a peaceful settlement it must do something more than lament. It is not the United States but its opponents, including the Soviets, who are escalating the conflict in Asia most dangerously and threatening to destroy the slender prospect of co-operation between Washington and Moscow on other problems.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE
25 JANUARY 1968

MOLESTERS

(Orlando Sentinel)

What a curious commentary on life in the United States today—that story about the Pentagon gearing up to protect its female help from molestation as they go to their cars.

The headquarters of the nation's war and defense effort is going to have to put on shuttle buses to take the ladies to their cars, hire roving motor patrols, and install special emergency lighting in parking facilities.

We don't doubt this is necessary. Not a bit. What we question is the laxity of law enforcement and the soft handling of hoodlums that have made streets and parking lots unsafe for citizens.

WASHINGTON POST 25 JANUARY 1968

Brazil's Turn

Who remembers the day when armed forces were established for purposes of defense—when states assayed their security needs, measured them against their resources, and planned their arms budgets accordingly? How right, and old-fashioned, that concept appears in an age when great weapons are national status symbols and, in Latin America, supersonic jets are the ultimate.

These regrets are occasioned by reports that Brazil is about to lay out $25 or $50 million for American or French supersonic jets, respectively. There is no question of a need for these planes — Brazil threatens no one and is not itself threatened — but simply of a desire. They fit Brazil's image of itself as a great continental power and, apparently, this image will not be altered by considerations of the country's economic plight or of the contagious effect its jet purchase would have on other Latin countries.

The American Government is content to have delayed Latin acquisition of the jets this long, and it intends to grant the necessary export license for the American F-5 — in the interests of our balance of payments and of beating out the French. Having lost the battle to prevent the purchases at all, Washington apparently is not above relishing these crumbs of defeat. Another such crumb is the saving in aid: Congress now requires an aid reduction by the sum that a recipient spends on "sophisticated" weapons. This is well. If Brazil's sovereign right to waste its assets on fast, flashy jets is to be respected, then there is no justification for the United States to pay for them.

As the hemisphere's aid donor and arms maker, the United States cannot avoid the burden of having to coax Latin states to forgo expensive jets and then to take sanctions when they resist its counsel. But it would be helpful if the Latin countries, who have a natural interest, shared the load. National pride and jealousy may run too high for these countries to submit to each other their arms budgets, or at least their plans to buy new weapons. But the effort to set up a hemispheric arms-screening mechanism — to consider weapons policies in both an economic and diplomatic context — ought to go on. It would be progress just to establish the matter as one normally receiving hemispheric scrutiny.

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FEATURES COLUMNISTS

NEW YORK TIMES, 25 January 1968

Texts of Purported Confession and Pentagon's Reply

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24—Following are the texts of a statement broadcast in English today by the official North Vietnamese press agency, which attributed it to Comdr. Lloyd M. Bucher of the United States Navy, and of the Defense Department's response:

Purported Confession

I am Comdr. Lloyd Mark Bucher, captain of the U.S.S. Pueblo, belonging to the Pacific Fleet, U.S. Navy, who was captured while carrying out espionage activities after intruding deep into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

My serial number is 5821540I. I was born in Pocatello, Idaho, U.S.A. I am 38 years old.

The crew of our U.S.S. Pueblo are 83 in all, including 5 officers besides me, 75 servicemen and 2 civilians.

My ship had been sent to Sasebo, Japan, to execute assignments given by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

On Dec. 2, last, we received assignments at the port of Sasebo from Rear Adm. Frank A. Johnson, U.S. Navy commander in Japan, to conduct military espionage activities on the far eastern region of the Soviet Union and then on the offshore areas and coastal areas of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

My ship had conducted espionage activities on a number of occasions for the purpose of detecting the territorial waters of the Socialist countries.

'A Lot of Dollars'

Through such espionage activities, my ship detected the military installations set up along the coasts of the Socialist countries and submitted the materials to the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Recently, we were given another important mission by the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency—that is, to detect the areas along the far east of the Soviet Union and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The U. S. Central Intelligence Agency promised me that if this task would be done successfully, a lot of dollars would be offered to the whole crew members of my ship and particularly I myself would be honored.

Soon after that, I reinforced the arms and equipment of the ship and made detailed preparations for espionage activities.

Then we disguised my ship as one engaged in research on oceanic electronics and left the port of Sasebo, Japan, and conducted espionage acts along the coast of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea via the general area off the Soviet Maritime Province. We pretended ourselves to conduct the observation of oceanic conditions on the high seas, electronics, research on electric waves, magnetic conditions and exploitation of oceanic materials.

Mission Began Jan. 16

It was on Jan. 16, 1968, that we entered the coastal waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea via the Soviet Maritime Province.

In accordance with the instructions we had received, my ship was on the utmost alert and observed and ascertained the depth of water, current, water temperature, sea basin, salt density and water transparency of the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with radar and various kinds of observatory instruments in a clandestine manner at Chongjin, Wonsan and several other points, and detected the radar network, accommodation capacities of the ports, the number of the incoming and outgoing vessels and maneuverability of the naval vessels of the Korean People's Army.

Furthermore we spied on various military installations and the distribution of industries and the deployment of armed forces along the east coast areas and sailed up to the point 7.6 miles off Nodo when the navy patrol crafts of the Korean People's Army appeared.

We were on the alert instantly and tried to escape, firing at the navy patrol crafts of the People's Army.

'We Had No Way Out'

But the situation became more dangerous for us, and thus one of my men was killed, another heavily wounded and two others lightly wounded.

We had no way out, and were captured by the navy patrol crafts of the People's Army.

Having been captured now, I say frankly that our act was a crimiant act which flagrantly violated the armistice agreement, and it was a sheer act of aggression.

I have no excuse whatsoever for my criminal act as my ship intruded deep into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and was captured by the naval patrol crafts of the Korean People's Army in their self-defense action while conducting the criminal espionage activities.

My crime committed by me and my men is entirely indelible.

I and my crew have perpetrated such a grave criminal act, but our parents and wives and children at home are anxiously waiting for us to return home in safety.

Therefore, we only hope, and it is the greatest desire of myself and all my crew, that we will be forgiven leniently by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Pentagon's Reply

Special to The New York Times

tributed to Comdr. Lloyd M. Bucher by North Korean Communist propagandists is a travesty on the facts. The style and wording of the document provide unmistakable evidence in themselves that this was not written or prepared by any American.

The major point which this propaganda utterance attempts to make is that the Pueblo had violated North Korean territorial waters and was in fact violating those territorial waters when the North Korean patrol craft appeared. This is absolutely untrue.

The Pueblo reported her position at that time to be 39 degrees 25 minutes north and 127 degrees 55 minutes east. The Pueblo's position as determined by the radar track of the North Koreans themselves was 39 degrees 25 minutes north and 127 degrees 56 minutes east. These two reported positions are within a mile of one another, and both show conclusively that the Pueblo was in international water.

The Pueblo was under orders from the beginning of its mission to stay at least 13 miles from North Korean territory. There is no evidence to suggest that these is much evidence both from her own radio transmission and from the information broadcast from the North Koreans themselves in their own internal report that the orders were obyed.

Typical of this propaganda sham is the suggestion that the Central Intelligence Agency had promised Commander Bucher and his crew "a lot of dollars" for their mission. Commander Bucher is a naval officer commanding a naval ship and performing a naval mission. He is not employed by the Central Intelligence Agency and has promisd nothing by the Central Intelligence Agency. Nor were any members of his crew.

The entire world learned during the Korean war of the tactics and techniques of Communist propaganda and of North Korean exploitation of men it held captive. This Fabrication is but another example. No credehce should be given this contrived statement.

NEW YORK TIMES, 25 Jan 1968

Events in Capture of Ship

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (UPI)—Following is a chronology of events in the North Korean seizure of the United States Navy intelligence vessel Pueblo. (Sequence is given in Eastern time, which is 14 hours behind Korean time.)

About two weeks ago: The Navy stationed the Pueblo off North Korea.

About 10 P.M. Monday: North Korean patrol boat approached Pueblo and with signal flags asked identity, then ordered, "Heave to or I will open fire on you." Pueblo responded, "I am in international waters." Patrol boat circled Pueblo.

About 11 P.M.: Three additional patrol craft appeared. One ordered: "Follow in my wake. I have a pilot aboard." The four craft circled the American ship. Two MIG jet fighter planes appeared.

11:45 P.M.: Pueblo radioed that she was being boarded by armed North Koreans.

Midnight: Secretary of State Dean Rusk was informed of the incident.

2 A.M. Tuesday: Pueblo reported that she had been asked to follow the North Korean ships into the port of Wonsan.

North Korea says the Pueblo, armed with two .50-caliber machine guns, fired on its patrol boats and that they returned the fire and "killed and wounded" several Americans. The Defense Department says only that four of Pueblo's crewmen were injured, one critically, after the ship was boarded.

2:32 A.M.: Pueblo radioed that she had come "all stop" and was "going off the air."

Between 2 and 2:30 A.M.: Walt W. Rostow, special White House assistant, awakened President Johnson.

8:40 A.M.: The Defense Department publicly announced the incident. About the same time, President Johnson informed Congressional leaders, gathered for a previously scheduled breakfast meeting.

5:50 P.M.: Navy announced that four men aboard the ship had been injured in the boarding. Informed sources disclosed the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise had been diverted from her course toward the North Vietnamese coast and ordered into the Sea of Japan, where the Pueblo was seized.

9 P.M.: United States and North Korean representatives met at the Panmunjom armistice talks. Rear Adm. John V. Smith demanded the return of the Pueblo and her crewmen. Maj. Gen. Pak Chung Kook rejected the demand.

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WASH. NEWS, 24 Jan 1968 (25)

SPY SHIP ROLE FOGGY

By MIKE MILLER
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Mystery today shrouded the role and actions of the Navy's USS Pueblo, hijacked Monday night by communist North Korea on an intelligence mission off that country's coast.

After hours of officially imposed silence, many of the sporadic Pentagon disclosures on the incident served to heighten the mystery rather than solve it.

There were these questions:

✔ What exactly was the Pueblo doing in the Sea of Japan since it began its mission there Jan. 8?

Describing the vessel as an "intelligence gathering auxiliary ship," the Pentagon said it was under control of the Navy rather than any of the U.S. supersecret intelligence agencies.

✔ Why did the Pueblo hesitate so long before calling for help?

The vessel was first confronted by a North Korean patrol boat at 10 p.m. Monday and told by radio to "Heave to or I will open fire on you." The Pueblo skipper did not request help until she was boarded an hour and 45 minutes later, after the one patrol boat had been joined by three others and two MIGs circling overhead.

The Pentagon declined comment on whether any help was dispatched. It was probably too late.

✔ What happened in the 47 minutes from the time the ship was boarded until it sent its last message that its engines were at "all stop" and that it was "going off the air?" Did a fight ensue?

It could have. The Pueblo's crew of 83 was equipped with small arms and might have fought back before being overcome. A Navy spokesman said the Pueblo was taken forcibly and did not surrender. Nor did it ask for instructions while it remained in contact with "higher headquarters."

Altho Pueblo radioed that it didn't fire its two 50-caliber machine guns and there was no report of fire from the patrol boats before the boarding, the Pueblo skipper reported four men wounded, one critically.

✔ Where is the ship and what's going to happen to her?

DAVID LAWRENCE — WASHINGTON STAR, 1/24/68 (25)

Pueblo Seizure Threatens Crisis

Seizure by North Korea of the USS Pueblo, a small lightly armed vessel carrying oceanographic equipment as well as electronic and communications gear, has opened up the whole subject of sea coast surveillance. This is being carried on regularly by Russian fishing vessels, for example, in waters off the ports of Charleston, S.C., and Boston, Mass.

These ships may, under international law, station themselves outside of coastal waters. The Russians claim a 12-mile line off their shores, while the United States recognizes a three-mile limit.

All over the world, Russian trawlers are engaged in watching American submarines and also monitoring the flight of airplanes. The United States is doing the same in waters close to countries and islands in the Pacific Ocean where the vessels engaged in gathering intelligence are stationed. It will be recalled that, during the Middle East war last June, the USS Liberty was believed to be an Egyptian ship and was attacked in the Mediterranean by Israeli planes and torpedo boats.

But there possibly is an even more pointed significance in the seizure of the USS Pueblo. It may mark the beginning of what chairman Richard Russell of the Senate Armed Services Committee says could prove to be "a diversionary action" by the Communists. Certainly, if America's armed services were equired to move in force into the Korean area again, it would diminish their strength in Southeast Asia. Such a contingency, however, is much more likely to have been plotted by the Red China regime than the Russians, for the latter have much to lose if the United States finds that international waters are being violated and that the Soviet Union has had a part in it.

As for the Red Chinese, there has always been a fear that they would start trouble again in Korea as a means of weakening the American position in Vietnam. But this could lead to serious consequences for Red China, as the Nationalist chinese would probably wish to take advantage of the turbulent conditions and try to land troops on the mainland. It is not likely that Peking will do anything to encourage an invasion by Nationalist Chinese from Formosa. The Soviet Union, at the same time, is not too anxious to see Red China make any critical moves in Korea that might have broader and broader consequences.

Certainly the seizure of the United States ship by the North Koreans is, as Senator Russell said, "a serious breach of international law amounting to an act of war." The Department of State views the matter as one of "the utmost gravity," and is busy through diplomatic channels trying to get the North Korean representatives on the Military Armistice Commission to order the ship released.

North Korea contends that its own naval vessels were merely engaged in patrol duty and that the USS Pueblo had intruded into its territorial waters "carrying out hostile activities." This is the kind of propaganda that would naturally be expected from Communist sources.

But the United States is not likely to let the matter rest there. The Defense Department has declared that the Pueblo was seized 25 miles from the mainland of Korea and that the ship did not fire any of its weapons. There is every indication that the American government, by its protests not only to Moscow but to the Military Armistice Commission, will demand that the vessel be permitted to leave the North Korean port. The State Department insists that the USS Pueblo was not engaged in any hostile action whatsoever and had a right to be on the high seas off North Korea.

The whole incident illustrates how readily small conflicts can be generated that could lead to international complications. The attitude of the Soviet government will be a key to whether the incident will diminish in importance or become an excuse for starting new crises in the Far East.

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WASHINGTON NEWS
24 January 1968 (25)

Shipnaping Is Called Well-Planned

By R. H. BOYCE
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Administration sources voiced fears today that North Korea's seizure of the USS Pueblo and recent "drastic increases" in communist attacks on South Korea may be linked to the Vietnam War.

They speculated that the growing boldness of North Korean Communists is aimed at:

✔ Keeping U.S. and South Korean forces so occupied there that no more troops can be pulled out to fight in Vietnam, thus indirectly helping communist Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces. (Fifty thousand South Korean troops already are fighting in Vietnam.)

✔ Warning the U.S. that continued bombing of North Vietnam could bring intensified guerilla fighting in Korea and perhaps even another Vietnam-type war there.

INCIDENTS INCREASE

The sources pointed to a report of the United Nations command in Korea to the United Nations Security Council which showed that "significant incidents" of North Korean infiltration into South Korea, by both land and sea, had increased from only 50 in 1966 to 543 last year.

There were only 30 fire-fights between opposing forces in Korea in 1966 but there were 212 hot exchanges of fire in 1967, the report said. It added that the number of North Koreans killed in such fighting increased from 43 in 1966 to 224 in 1967, while the number of U.S. and South Korean troops killed jumped from 35 in 1966 to 122 in 1967.

Four South Korean civilians were killed by infiltrators in 1966 but 22 were killed in 1967, the report said.

VIOLATION

The report was transmitted to the Security Council by U.S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg, who charged that the "recent sharp increase in the scope and intensity of the North Korean military attacks and other armed activity in Korea was in violation of the Military Armistice Agreement signed July 27, 1953."

The report said North Korean "armed raiders" ranging from small groups of six or nine men up to a group of about 60 have attacked "in carefully planned and reconnoitered operations" and also have concealed "numerous mines" and used high-explosive charges to demolish buildings.

Nearly all the infiltrators were captured, killed or dispersed, the report said.

The abortive attempt Sunday by 31 North Koreans to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung-Hee was the latest in the growing number of raids — capped by the seizure of the Pueblo.

It is believed the Pueblo's capture was carefully planned and executed because the U.S. Navy "intelligence gathering" ship had been engaged in electronic eavesdropping off the North Korean coast for two weeks. The State Department insisted the ship was operating in international waters.

Military intelligence sources here said the planned nature of the North Korean capture of the Pueblo was borne out by the presence of four Red gunboats which encircled the ship while two communist mig fighter jets circled low overhead.

It was believed this display of superior North Korean firepower made the Pueblo reluctant to attempt a shoot-out with the enemy, altho several crewmen reportedly were wounded by gunfire. The Pueblo was armed only with two 50-caliber machine guns.

But no Washington official would offer an explanation of why no American help was forthcoming from U.S. naval or air facilities within range of the Pueblo.

Capture of the intelligence vessel by the communists was regarded as a major coup, since the ship was equipped with quantities of highly sophisticated electronic gear. There was speculation that the ship may have been singled out as a target because the North Koreans believed it had gathered valuable military information.

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WASHINGTON POST, 25 January 1968

PRESIDENT'S OPTIONS WERE LIMITED IN PUEBLO'S SEIZURE

News Analysis

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Johnson's options in the Pueblo affair were constricted by two critical decisions made down the chain of command before the Chief Executive had even heard of the incident.

What is now known of the record goes to demonstrate once again how much a Commander - in - Chief is hemmed in by the actions of his subordinates.

These were the decisions involved:

1. The President was not told of the North Korean torpedo boat approach to the Pueblo or of its boarding until 2 a.m. Tuesday, Washington time, after the ship and its 83-man crew were securely in North Korean hands. By that time he was faced with an accomplished fact—the first hijacking of an American naval vessel by a foreign state in more than a century and a half.

2. The nuclear powered carrier Enterprise and its accompanying vessels, which by chance had just left Sasebo, Japan, to return to duty off Vietnam, were turned about and headed toward the Sea of Japan opposite North Korea, again before Mr. Johnson was awakened. The President once more was faced with a fact—that American ships were heading toward North Korea in a show of force.

In the first instance, others made the fateful decision not to send aircraft to help the Pueblo, whether or not the captain had called for aid. Someone decided, without reference to the White House and apparently (although this is not yet certain) without reference to the Pentagon, to let the Pueblo's captain handle the torpedo boat problem.

That proved to be an irretrievable mistake that severely limited the President's ability to respond.

In the second instance, the President had no option open on whether to respond to the incident with a show of force. That decision was made down the line, apparently by CINCPAC, the joint command headquarters in Honolulu. Whether the Pentagon was even asked its advice is not yet clear. But certainly the President was not asked.

It may well be, of course, that Mr. Johnson, if he had been given the option, at once would have ordered the Enterprise and its naval train to head for North Korean waters. On the other hand he might have decided that to do so would be to overheat the already charged atmosphere and possibly limit diplomatic efforts to win release of ship and crew.

If further diplomatic efforts fail and with the naval force off North Korea, Mr. Johnson has the option now of using force in some form or of withdrawing the ships in the face of North Korean refusal to free the Pueblo.

The Pueblo case is not the first instance in which a President has found himself bound by what his subordinates have done.

President Eisenhower was boxed in by the mishandling of an inept cover story in the U-2 affair. President Kennedy, to some degree, was trapped in the Bay of Pigs debacle, something he did not let recur in the Cuban missile crisis. And President Johnson reacted, or, in the view of some over-reacted, to what he was told by the American ambassador in Santo Domingo in the Dominican intervention.

WASHINGTON STAR, 24 January 1968 (25)

Tough, Warless Posture Believed Korea's Aim

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN
Star Staff Writer

U.S. officials believe North Korea's seizure of the USS Pueblo is connected with a year-long campaign by North Korean leaders to put their nation on a virtual wartime footing—but without seeking a war.

For months now, Kim Il-song, the veteran North Korean chief, has been warning of U.S. plans "to unleash a new war in plans "to unleash a new war in Korea" and, in particular, there has been a loud clamor against "armed spy boats" on the east coast of North Korea.

Just two weeks ago—on Jan. 9—the Pyongyang press said these "spy boats" were carrying out "provocative acts despite warnings of our side." The presence of the Pueblo in this area during the ensuing two weeks could have been regarded by the North Korean authorities as defiance of their warning, some officials believe.

In any event, officials say evidence at hand suggests that the Pueblo incident is neither related to the Vietnam war nor to plans for a new Korean conflict.

Rather, the motivation probably is found in Kim's drive to steer a bold, independent course for his Communist nation. He has made it clear on many occasions that if North Korea is to be able to stand on its own it must concentrate on heavy industry, build up its defense and maintain a revolutionary zeal.

Only then, he has said, will North Korea be able to fulfill its "lofty national duty" of forcing out the "U.S. imperialist aggressors" and of "liberating South Korea."

North Korea's policies are influenced, but not controlled by the two Communist giants which share its Northern border—Red China and Russia.

The Soviet Union was the dominant force in North Korea from 1945 until the Korean War in 1950. Red China came to North Korea's rescue during the war and was the dominant power for several years afterwards.

Kim took steps to purge both Chinese and Russian elements from his party apparatus, but from 1962 until 1964 North Korea followed Peking's line and opposed the Soviet Union.

Following the ouster of Nikita S. Khrushchev, North Korea has tried to chart a neutral course in the Sino-Soviet conflict. It has accepted military aid from Russia, but made clear its refusal to let Moscow dictate its policies.

It has called for militant support for North Veitnam, implicitly criticizing the degree of Soviet aid to Hanoi. But it has alienated Peking by backing the call for a "united front" in Vietnam.

The essence of Kim's thinking can be found in a lengthy speech he gave on Dec. 16. Speaking to the Supreme People's Assembly, he said South Korea would never be "liberated" unless North Korea's economy is vastly strengthened.

He advocated a belt-tightening campaign, calling on everyone to save "even a grain of rice, a gram of iron, or a drop of gasoline."

To impress his people with the need for this obviously difficult life, Kim increased the amount of propaganda claiming that South Korea was on the verge of revolution to overthrow President Chung Hee Park. To head off the revolt, the North Koreans sai dthe United States was planning to attack North Korea.

To "prove" there is a revolt in the South, the North Koreans have had to manufacture incidents by sending down their own Communist agents.

Moreover, Kim seems genuinely concerned about his country's limited role in the Vietnam war. He has made the conventional promise to aid North Vietnam if asked. But he is aware that South Korea has sent 50,000 troops to South Vietnam while he has done little if anything.

NEWSWEEK, 29 January 1968 (25)

'Hell No!' at Harvard

"A lot of my friends were talking about resisting the draft, and I thought we should try to get some figures," explained Harvard senior Stephen D. Lerner, 21; so as executive editor of the daily Crimson, he set up a poll to do just that. The result brought fledgling journalist Lerner (the son of columnist Max Lerner) and the antiwar sentiment at Harvard newspaper headlines across the country.

A total of 529 seniors, representing 43 per cent of their class, responded to the Crimson questionnaire; of these, 94 per cent disapproved of U.S. policy in Vietnam, 59 per cent said they would make a "determined effort to avoid military service" and 22 per cent asserted that they would flee the country or go to jail rather than face induction. "These are the people who have given America up as a lost cause," concluded Lerner, while his father worried over "an antidraft mood among university students far more serious than anyone had expected." For his part, the head of Harvard's Army ROTC program, Col. Robert H. Pell, preferred to note that 57 per cent of the seniors had not been concerned enough to take part in the poll. He predicted that even the 22 per cent of avowed resisters would "go and serve faithfully" when their time came. Harvard Dean Fred Glimp took a middle view: "The poll surely overstates the course of action that students would finally opt for. But there's no denying it's an unpopular war."

As it happened, Glimp was among 4,190 persons on the Cambridge campus who last week appealed to President Johnson for de-escalation and negotiation in Vietnam. Fifty-one per cent of Harvard and Radcliffe undergraduates signed the telegram to the White House; so did 54 per cent of Harvard's faculty of Arts and Sciences, including Asian experts Edwin O. Reischauer and John King Fairbank, Defense consultant Thomas Schelling, economist John Kenneth Galbraith, urbanist Daniel Patrick Moynihan and four Nobel Prize laureates. Said Reischauer: "I think it's remarkable that 54 per cent of the Harvard faculty signed *any* statement. You couldn't get more than 80 per cent of them on a statement in favor of motherhood."

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Analysis

BALTIMORE SUN 25 JANUARY 1968

U.S. Will Not Give Up Ship

By PHILIP POTTER
[Washington Bureau of The Sun]

Washington, Jan. 24 — The President who sent 30,000 soldiers to prevent a Communist take-over of the Dominican Republic in 1965 is not going to have it recorded that his administration let an American Navy ship be permanently lost to North Korea through seizure on the high seas.

He will patiently pursue diplomacy backed by an adequate show of muscle to get back the Pueblo and its crew, but he intends to get it back.

The attitude at the White House and throughout the Government is one of determination on this score, but determination unmarred by any desire to rush into headlong belligerency over yesterday's incident, as demanded by a minority, but not the wiser heads, in Congress.

The Government, which less than a year ago released two Russian fishing trawlers after fining the captains who had encroached on United States territorial waters, has sought the Soviet Union's good offices to win release of the Pueblo, taken by the North Koreans not within the 12-mile zone it claims off its coast, but on the high seas.

Despite an initial unsatisfactory response from Moscow to the United States' request for aid in bringing the Korean seizure to a swift end, the Government here clearly hopes that the Soviet Union will urge the Russian-trained North Korean chief, Kim Il-song, to be sensible, however much this may be accompanied by Soviet propaganda blasts against the United States.

Captain's "Confession"

In fact, although the Soviet Union has not said it will do anything of the kind, it may already have passed the word.

The alleged "confession" of "spying" the Pyongyang regime claims to have gotten from the U.S.S. Pueblo's skipper, is of a type that in the past has preceded the release of Americans seized by Communists in one country or another.

The United States is not about to equate the action of the North Korean regime in seizing the Pueblo in international waters with American seizure of Russian trawlers in waters clearly barred to them by international law, agreement and usage.

But Pyongyang would be well advised to release the Navy intelligence-gathering ship, just as the United States released the Soviet trawlers in the interest of world amity, even though they were subject to confiscation.

Soviet Skipper Fined

Capt. Nikolai G. Zernov, of the trawler SRTN 8413, was fined March 6, 1967, after pleading no contest in an Alaskan court to charges that he violated the 3-mile limit claimed by the United States as its territorial waters compared to the 12-mile limits claimed by Communist bloc countries.

His craft had been brought in by the Coast Guard cutter Sturis after an hour-long chase March 2, when it was caught fishing for shrimp a mile off the south shore of Mitrofania Island in the Aleutian chain.

Under the law he could have been fined $10,000, sentenced to a year in jail and had his vessel and cargo confiscated. A $5,000 fine was all he got.

2 Nights In Jail

Capt. Leonid M. Kuschenko, of the trawler SRTM 8-457, also pleaded no contest to a charge of violating a 12-mile limit off the Shumagin Islands in the Aleutian chain, designated as barred to foreign fishing craft, as are certain other areas in the Alaskan fisheries.

He spent two nights in an Alaskan jail when unable to pay the $19,000 fine he was assessed for coming within 5½ miles of the coast to fish.

The Soviet Embassy paid his fine and got him released March 27, its representative here stating at the time that he would have to repay the Soviet Government the full amount and that his master's license would be revoked for one year.

Fishing Agreement

The United States and Soviet Union only a few months earlier had signed in Washington an agreement permitting Russian trawlers to fish within the 12-mile zone in certain prescribed areas of the Gulf of Alaska and the Aleutians.

Kuschenko strayed into a forbidden one. His trawler was also released.

The Russians, whose trawlers have often engaged in the same kind of intelligence gathering as did the Pueblo, have a good deal more at stake than North Korea in seeing that the niceties are observed at sea by all countries, Communist or non-Communist. It is to be hoped Kim Il-song can be led to observe them, too.

Joseph Kraft

WASHINGTON POST 25 JANUARY 1968

Seizure of Pueblo by Reds Stresses U.S. Self-Isolation

LAST YEAR made it plain that guns in Vietnam could not be combined with butter at home. And this year is making it plain that the United States cannot have both guns in Vietnam and a detente with the rest of the Communist world.

That is the bitter lesson of the seizure of the USS Pueblo by the North Koreans. And the lesson is the more bitter because it is evident that this country's traditional friends want no part of a new confrontation with the Communists.

To be sure, the Pueblo affair could be an isolated incident conditioned by very special circumstances. Moreover, the North Koreans are Asian Communists, sensitive to Peking's pressure for a hard-line stand against the United States.

BUT NORTH KOREA also has a common border with the Soviet Union. With respect to Vietnam, the North Koreans have supported Moscow against Peking in coming out for united action on behalf of Hanoi. Thus it is going to be very hard for the Russians to back away from what the North Koreans have done.

The more so as abundant signs indicate that a recent era of good feeling between Washington and Moscow had about reached the end of the line anyway. Not that Washington willed it that way. On the contrary, having just reached agreement with the Soviet Union on the text of a nuclear nonproliferation treaty, the Johnson Administration has been eager to go on to new arms control measures.

But the Vietnamese war keeps getting in the way. For example, minutes before Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin returned home for consultation ten days ago, Secretary of State Rusk was obliged to warn him that a recent air raid near Hanoi had scattered into the waters near the port delayed action bombs that might imperil Soviet ships.

ON THE SOVIET side, there appear to be moderate officials keen to maintain working relations with this country. But the moderates seem to be on the defensive on a host of issues, including economic reform and cultural liberalization as well as relations with Washington.

According to one rumor, Prime Minister Alexi Kosygin, thought to be the leading moderate figure in all matters, is on the point of resigning in frustration. Another story has it that one of the best known liberals in cultural matters, P. N. Demichev, will be demoted from a post on the party secretariat to a ministerial job.

By no mere accident, the backsliding of the Big Two toward confrontation finds most of this country's closest friends across the Atlantic looking the other way. The fact is that they are less and less interested in carrying the burden in the quarrels that now divide the United States and the Soviet Union.

Gen. de Gaulle, to cite the most notable example, has staked everything on disengagement from the United States in order to get on with Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. He has his own reasons for that policy—and those not of the best. But if he remains politically secure in France, and has a following throughout Western Europe, it is in large measure because he is able to pose as the prophet of detente.

BRITAIN seems now to be following along. Compelling economic needs have forced Prime Minister Harold Wilson to abandon the role of junior partner to the United States in backing up the security of nations between Singapore and Suez. And on his recent visit to Moscow he has been playing to the hilt the part of the man who can get on with the Russians.

Nor is anybody else in Western Europe, not even the West Germans who were once so keen on confrontation, rallying to the cause. On the contrary, their most conspicuous stance toward the United States is the flinty position they have taken on the balance of payments. And that is in large part a refusal to help pick up the tab for this country's efforts in Vietnam.

What is happening, in short, is the self-isolation of the United States. Being indignant about the Pueblo, justifiable as indignation may be, will not turn that tide of affairs. What is required, what more than ever shapes up as the most urgent task of all, is continuing the war in Vietnam.

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THE NEW REPUBLIC, 27 January 68 (25)

Tonkin Gulf Attack

A Case Study in How Not to Go to War

by John Finney

It may seem strange that Mark Twain should be having an impact on the Senate's running debate on Vietnam, but this is what has been happening in a crucial, potentially explosive argument between the Administration and Senator J. W. Fulbright, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The argument concerns what happened on August 4, 1964 in the Gulf of Tonkin – the day that the United States went to war against North Vietnam.

Almost 70 years ago, in an analogous situation, Mark Twain poured forth an indictment of the deceptions practiced by the McKinley Administration in the Spanish-American War and the ensuing Philippine insurrection. These days, in his book-strewn office, Senator Fulbright rereads the Twain indictment in a book entitled *On the Damned Human Race*, and from it tries to draw guidance on how far to go in challenging the Administration on the Tonkin incident.

There is an odd historical parallel between the sinking of the *Maine* and the Gulf of Tonkin affair. Just as the sinking of the *Maine* led to war, our adventure in imperialism in the Pacific and moral doubts and deep division within the Republican Party, so did the Gulf of Tonkin incident lead to an expanded war in Vietnam and now to moral uncertainties and divisions within the Democratic Party. There is also a personal parallel between the stance taken by Thomas B. (Boss) Reed, who resigned as Speaker of the House in protest against imperialistic actions of the McKinley Administration and the position being assumed by Senator Fulbright that could cause him to directly challenge the integrity of the Johnson Administration. Whether Senator Fulbright will go so far as to accuse the Administration of deception remains undecided. But short of that, he is building up an indictment accusing the Administration of reacting too precipitately and of committing the nation to war on the basis of inconclusive information.

There has always been an air of uncertainty about what happened August 4, 1964 in the Gulf of Tonkin. On that day, in a confused, nighttime engagement some 65 miles off the North Vietnam coast, two American destroyers – the *Maddox* and the *Turner Joy* – reported they were attacked by North Vietnamese PT boats. Within 12 hours after the first report, the Johnson Administration had decided upon a series of fateful steps. It ordered the bombing of targets in North Vietnam, went to Congress for a resolution endorsing "all necessary measures" to prevent further aggression, and began the massive buildup of American military power in South Vietnam and Thailand. All these moves added up to a declaration of war against North Vietnam, at least as the war-making power is now being interpreted by the executive branch. As Undersecretary of State Katzenbach was to acknowledge later, the Administration's actions and the congressional resolution amounted to a "functional equivalent" of a declaration of war.

Leaving aside the Vietnam debate, this raises some disturbing questions about how the United States goes to war in this modern era of "limited" wars. What information was available to the Administration and did it conclusively show that there had been a North Vietnamese attack? How did the Administration's much vaunted command-and-control system, designed to avoid an impetuous reaction in the nuclear age, work in the Gulf of Tonkin incident? Did it provide ample intelligence to reach considered decisions, or were men carried away by the rush of events and a predisposition to push the war to the north? Was it absolutely necessary to react within 12 hours, or would it have been possible and preferable to put off a decision, allowing time to reevaluate the information and to consult with Congress?

Somehow, in the emotionalism of the moment, these questions were not asked, even by the critics of our Vietnam policy. But they are being asked now. And even if the Fulbright inquiry never gets beyond a committee staff study, it already has had the significant result of forcing the Administration to make public evidence supporting its conclusion that American destroyers had been subjected to "deliberate attack" in international waters.

A few weeks ago, in rebuttal to Senator Fulbright, the Defense Department issued a statement asserting that the "evidence that the destroyers were attacked is conclusive." It made available the following pieces of evidence to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and to the press:

► radar tracks of fast, small craft paralleling and then closing in on the destroyers *Maddox* and *Turner Joy*;

► numerous sonar detections of torpedoes fired at the destroyers, reported by the sonar man who manned the *Maddox's* equipment throughout the attack;

► visual sighting by an officer and several crewmen of the wake of a torpedo passing near the *Turner Joy*;

► visual sighting of the attacking craft, lit by aircraft flares and by illuminating shells fired during the engagement;

► visual sighting of anti-aircraft fire directed at American planes overhead;

► visual sighting from aircraft of the wake of a small, fast craft near the destroyers.

Of all the evidence, the most direct and conclusive was the sighting of a torpedo wake which, according to Pentagon accounts, passed some 300 feet off the port beam of the *Turner Joy*. The only difficulty with this piece of evidence, however, was a subsequent admission by a Pentagon spokesman that it was not available when the retaliatory decision was made, but rather was obtained in post-incident affidavits! Similarly, information about visual sighting by aircraft of a small craft maneuvering near the destroyers was not obtained until after the decision had been made.

With these pieces of direct, eyewitness evidence eliminated, the Defense Department's case rests largely on indirect evidence obtained by radar and sonar. As detection devices, radar and sonar can be remarkably accurate systems, but they also have ways of playing tricks on their human operators.

Take the radar evidence, for example. Among Navy men who have operated in the area, the Tonkin Gulf is notorious as an electronic jungle, filled with sampans, fish stakes and even flocks of birds that are capable of giving deceptive returns on radar screens. And, significantly, there are various indications that radar had been playing tricks on that cloudy, stormy night. Early in the engagement, the *Maddox* reported picking up three unidentified aircraft that then disappeared from the radar screen. The aircraft "bogeys" remain a mystery, but it is not inconceivable that the radar was picking up low-flying formations of birds. Or perhaps the radar, because of peculiar atmospheric conditions that are not uncommon in the Gulf of Tonkin, had been bouncing over the horizon, picking up distant objects that showed up on the radar as approaching, moving objects. There are reports that such "ducting" conditions prevailed that night in the Gulf. There was also the peculiarity – reported last summer in a commendable but largely overlooked Associated Press inquiry into the incident – that at the

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height of the "attack[illegible]e *Maddox's* radar could not find the targets that the *Turner Joy* was firing at.

Assume, however, for the sake of the Defense Department's argument, that radar was working correctly that night, picking up small, fast craft that first paralleled the course of the two destroyers and then turned in on them. Normally these are the maneuvers followed by PT boats when launching a torpedo attack. But are such maneuvers proof of an attack, particularly enough proof to warrant going to war? At most, it would seem that the radar evidence showed that the boats were engaging in harassing or even menacing maneuvers.

The evidence of attack available to the Administration at the time of its retaliatory decision, therefore, seems to be reduced to the sonar detection of "numerous" torpedoes fired at the destroyers. If radar has limitations, sonar, in comparison, is notoriously unreliable and deceptive, as any sonar operator who has mistaken a whale for a submarine can attest. In contrast to radar which is working with a relatively stable atmosphere, sonar works in the ever-changing medium of water, in which variations in water temperature can do peculiar things to the sonar beam and what it "hears." Furthermore, destroyer sonar beams are aimed primarily at detecting deeply submerged objects, such as submarines, not objects running near the surface, like torpedoes. Combined with all its inherent limitations, therefore, sonar has considerable difficulty detecting a relatively small, fast-moving torpedo running only some 10 or 20 feet beneath the surface. And to add to the difficulties is the presumed speed of the destroyers. At the time of the engagement the *Turner Joy* and *Maddox*, according to testimony by Defense Secretary McNamara, were engaging in evasive maneuvers, which presumably means that in addition to turning about, they were steaming at high speed. But as the speed of a destroyer goes up, its sonar detection capabilities decrease because of the noise and turbulence that builds up from the water swishing by the sonar dome mounted beneath the hull. In fact, after a speed of 17 to 20 knots, a destroyer has virtually no sonar detection capability, and it is a good guess that the *Maddox* and *Turner Joy* were going at least that fast if they were attempting to evade attack by PT boats.

There are some indications that the destroyers encountered just such difficulties in their sonar operations. The torpedoes, for example, were detected only by the *Maddox* and not by the *Turner Joy* – a fact which the Defense Department now explains away by saying that pre-incident tests had shown the *Turner Joy's* sonar was not picking up torpedoes. Furthermore, again according to the Associated Press interview with crew members, the *Maddox* was picking up "torpedoes" every time it turned, raising the possibility that the sonar was detecting only turbulence from the propellers of the *Maddox* or the *Turner Joy*, some 1,000 yards astern.

What is left of Pentagon evidence is, one, the visual sighting of the North Vietnamese craft – although the Defense Department is vague on how many craft were seen and by whom – and, secondly, the searchlight beam from one of the patrol boats. But at most, this evidence shows there were North Vietnamese boats in the vicinity, but does not prove they were attacking.

This rebuttal to the Administration case is not intended to suggest there was no attack at all, although such a suspicion initially occurred to Senator Fulbright and launched him on his inquiry. All of the evidence the Administration has gathered since the resolution – including the reported sighting of a torpedo wake – tends to support its initial conclusion of an attack. On the other side, however, are the doubts raised by the statements from Hanoi. The North Vietnamese government acknowledged an earlier attack on August 2 against the *Maddox*, but dismissed the second attack as a "myth," created by the United States to justify its expansion of the war. Why should Hanoi have told [illegible] truth about the first but lied about the second? Or [illegible]as it lying in the second instance?

Assuming the second attack did take place, there still remains the question of how conclusive was the evidence when the Administration ordered the retaliation. On the basis of the case presented by the Administration thus far, it appears that the decision was made largely if not wholly on the basis of circumstantial evidence that at best provided presumptive but by no means conclusive proof of an attack. Even Defense officials who have examined all the evidence acknowledge privately that some of the initial reports on which the Administration based its decision were erroneous or exaggerated. Testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committee on August 6, for example, Secretary McNamara stated flatly that between three and six North Vietnamese patrol boats had attacked the *Maddox* and *Turner Joy*, launching "a number of torpedoes" and directing "automatic weapons fire" at the destroyers. The Defense Department no longer is talking about automatic weapons fire, because, as it explains, it has no confirming evidence. In fact, it appears that in the confusion, the Pentagon may have mistaken reports about antiaircraft fire against aircraft for machine gun fire against the destroyers. And somehow with the detachment of time, the number of attacking craft and torpedoes has decreased. Now Defense Department officials are talking about three or four boats which fired "perhaps two but more likely one" torpedo.

Post-mortems into the Tonkin incident come too late, obviously, to reverse the tide of events that began on August 4, 1964. Nobody is more aware of this than Senator Fulbright, who, in a mood of moral agonizing, appreciates that in time of war he cannot go too far in seeming to impugn the integrity of the Administration. But in terms of future military incidents, which are bound to arise, the Fulbright inquiry raises some profound questions about the decision-making procedures followed by the executive branch.

In the years since the Kennedy Administration, the Defense Department has placed considerable emphasis on development of a command-and-control system designed precisely to prevent events from overtaking decisions. After the Gulf of Tonkin incident, one wonders whether a system has not been created which is capable of overtaking and overwhelming the decision-makers in one fell swoop. Because of the elaborate communications that have been set up as part of the command-and-control system, a blow-by-blow report of the engagement poured in by radio to the Pentagon. And in turn, the Pentagon deluged the two destroyers with messages, some of which were not answered until after the retaliatory decision had been made. Obviously there was no lack in the volume of reports placed in front of the decision-makers, all checked and rechecked according to the Defense Department. But there remained the problem of interpreting and evaluating "flash" reports coming in from destroyer commanders caught up in the confusion and frenzy of a nighttime encounter. It is here that the element of human judgment in the command-and-control system came into play – and seemed to fail.

There are indications that the Department itself had reservations about the operations of its command-and-control system, for after the incident the Pentagon's Weapons System Evaluation Group made a secret study into "The Operations of the Command-and-Control System in the Gulf of Tonkin Incidents." Who ordered the study and why, the Department won't say.

Perhaps the Pentagon had secret intelligence, obtained from monitored North Vietnamese radio messages, confirming that an attack had been ordered. If so, this information has yet to be revealed to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and the Administration's actions, therefore, must be judged on the basis of the evidence it has made public.

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Article of Disbelief

N.Y.POST, 24 Jan 68 (25)
MURRAY KEMPTON

It is painful and embarrassing to me both as a person and a citizen to say so, but I cannot believe anything my government says about the Pueblo.

I believed that Francis Gary Powers' U2 got lost and strayed into Russian skies in May of 1960 because my government told me so, until as President Eisenhower explained, there was no sense in going on with that story because 99 per cent of the sentient world knew that we were lying. I believed that the planes which bombed Cuba in April of 1961 were rebel Cuban planes because Adlai Stevenson told us so, until immediate events proved that they came from the CIA bomber command. I almost believed that Mr. Johnson had sent the Marines to the Dominican Republic in 1965 to rescue civilians even though *he* told us so, until subsequently he explained that there was this revolution of 24 Communists which needed 8,000 American soldiers to suppress; and, loyal, as I am, I just couldn't accept two lies on the same subject.

I even believed the Tonkin Gulf story. If you do not remember the Tonkin Gulf, you ought to; it was in passionate outrage against Hanoi's aggression in the Tonkin Gulf that the Senate gave Mr. Johnson the authority to take "all necessary measures" in response. That particular Senate resolution was lately interpreted by Nicholas Katzenbach, once Mr. Johnson's multi-jointed Attorney General and now promoted to be his india-rubber Secretary of State, as "the functional equivalent" of a declaration of war. We are in the swamp we are in because of the Tonkin Gulf.

* * *

In August, 1964, the destroyers Maddox and Turner Joy reported that they had been attacked with torpedoes by North Vietnamese PT boats.

"The Gulf of Tonkin may be distant Asian waters, but none can be detached about what happened there," Mr. Johnson told us then. "Aggression—deliberate, systematic and willful aggression—unmasked its face to the entire world. The world remembers—the world must never forget—that aggression unchallenged is aggression unleashed."

The aggressor had, of course, in this case unleashed his aggression from his own coast against an American vessel of war operating precisely as far from our own shores as it could get without being on its way home.

But that, after all, was just one more burden in the agony of our responsibility to the suffering people of the world. Neither of the ships was damaged; there followed a measured challenge to the aggressor by Mr. Johnson, who bombed three North Vietnamese coastal bases, destroyed or damaged 25 boats—a retaliation in the ratio of 25 to zero—and, as Defense Secretary McNamara told the Armed Services Committee according to custom, totally destroyed the local fuel depots.

The Tonkin Gulf story has since suffered a steady de-escalation from Mr. Johnson's original flight of hyperbole. It may not, to be sure, have been a lie in the conventional sense, but rather one of those misapprehensions Mr. Johnson seizes upon with the sincerity fortified by his will to believe anything which gives him an excuse. Still and all, it never reappears except diminished one more cubit.

* * *

John Finney traces the successive versions of the Tonkin Gulf incident in this week's New Republic with a fairness to Mr. Johnson's intention to tell the truth which, in view of the poor man's record in these matters, seems, if anything, excessively scrupulous.

Even so, Finney makes it plain that every time the Administration washes that story, it shrinks a little more. In August of 1964, Secretary McNamara told the Senate that between four and six North Vietnamese patrol boats attacked our two destroyers, launching "a number of torpedoes" and directing "automatic weapons" fire at them. A little later on, the Defense Dept. dropped references to automatic weapons fire; it has now progressed downward to "perhaps two, but more likely one torpedo."

What is more, the Maddox, which had been reported 65 miles at sea when it was assaulted, now turns out to have been "crisscrossing" in and out of the 12-mile limit of Hanoi's coast, for what benevolent purposes any Communist would be too diseased of mind to understand. Thus, on the Pueblo, I believe North Korea. I don't remember its having lied to me lately.

NEW YORK NEWS
25 January 1968

LBJ Requests 33 Million for Arms Control

Washington, Jan. 24 (NEWS Bureau)—Calling arms control "the most urgent business of our time," President Johnson said today the Soviet-American draft of a nuclear nonproliferation treaty represents the most constructive step yet in reducing the chances of atomic disaster.

Johnson made the statement in a message to Congress asking for a $33 million appropriation to extend for three years the life of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

The agency helped draft the treaty which prohibits any nuclear power from transferring nuclear weapons to have-not nations for at least 25 years. It also bars nonnuclear nations from making their own nuclear weapons.

"Won't End Tensions"

"This treaty will not end the tension between nations nor will it eliminate the shadow of nuclear war which now menaces all mankind," Johnson said. "But it will reduce the chances of nuclear disaster arising from local disputes."

The draft treaty was completed last week at the 17-nation disarmament conference in Geneva.

TONKIN GULF ATTACK -------- Continued

Why, in exercising human judgment, did the Administration interpret what would seem on the face of it to be circumstantial evidence as substantial enough to warrant an all-out retaliatory attack by two Navy carriers? Perhaps the system, by its very capability of flashing instantaneous reports into the decision-makers in the command post, has given an aura of undue authenticity to its information. After all, why should one question information gathered by impersonal electronic gadgets, encrypted by electronic gadgets and flashed by electronic gadgets to the desks of officials thousands of miles away? If that were the case, it would be the supreme political irony of the computerized approach to decision-making that Mr. McNamara has installed in the Pentagon.

Or perhaps there was an inclination to interpret the information in light of a prevailing disposition within the Administration to carry the war to the north, with the PT boat attack providing an excuse for attacking North Vietnam. At the time, remember, the Saigon government of General Nguyen Khanh was tottering and the South Vietnamese military effort was in danger of being overwhelmed. It is interesting, for example, that the first reaction of the Administration after receiving the initial report of the attack from the *Maddox* at about 9:30 a.m. (Washington time) was to send an "alert" order to the *Ticonderoga* and the *Constellation* for a retaliatory raid against North Vietnam, although the "execute" order was not sent until some 12 hours later after the attack had been "verified," according to the Defense Department.

On the basis of the evidence available, it is not possible to challenge the integrity of the Administration by suggesting it provoked the Tonkin incidents in order to find an excuse for attacking North Vietnam, although there are some suspicious but circumstantial signs pointing in that direction. Prior to the August 2 attack, for example, the *Maddox*, which according to Mr. McNamara's account was on "routine patrol" in international waters, had been criss-crossing in and out of the 12-mile territorial waters claimed by Hanoi. It apparently was on a "spoofing" expedition to monitor North Vietnamese radars and radio communications. In addition, during the daylight hours preceding the August 4 attack, the *Maddox* and *Turner Joy* had steamed straight for North Vietnamese territorial waters before turning out to sea at dusk.

It is possible, however, to challenge the quality of judgment shown by the Administration in evaluating and reacting to the incidents in both a prospective and retroactive sense. It is in the prospective sense that Senator Fulbright is now attempting to cast his inquiry. After all, the Gulf of Tonkin incident most certainly will not be the last incident involving American ships or planes, and his concern is that the nation not be drawn into future military involvements for lack of considered political decisions.

From the senatorial perspective, however, the issue goes deeper than the command-and-control system of the executive branch and involves the constitutional power of Congress to declare war and to commit the nation to foreign military hostilities. Perhaps, as Mr. Katzenbach argued before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, this power is "outmoded" in limited war situations. But one wonders whether the Administration would have acted so quickly and so forcefully in the Gulf of Tonkin incident if it had first gone to Congress with all its information. Senators may not understand radar, sonar or command-and-control, but often because of their naïveté they can intuitively ask searching questions. Long before the miracles of electronics, this point was understood by the founding fathers who after all set up the separation of powers as their own command-and-control system over the executive branch.

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RICHARD WILSON WASHINGTON STAR 24 JANUARY 1968 (25)

American Lives at Stake in Bomb Halt Dispute

General Eisenhower has put it directly and succinctly: We cannot give away American lives on the chance that the North Vietnamese government will talk about ending the war.

But this is what some of those who urge complying without conditions to Hanoi's demand for an end to the bombing evidently are willing to accept.

The risks of this position caused General Eisenhower to insist on inserting his own language in a recent statement of the Citizens Committee for Peace with Freedom, which in general supports the war.

Every day of an unreciprocated pause would cost the lives of Americans. General Eisenhower believes that particularly in the Con Thien area, the scene of previous bloody battles, American casualties could be disastrous if an American pause went unreciprocated.

Therefore he insisted on dictating this sentence in the committee's conclusion: "We believe that the beginning of an extended bombing pause must be promptly followed by Hanoi's cessation of sending men and materials into the South and any firing from the North upon our fighting men." What is prompt? In this context, prompt is the first few days after the pause. The critical period would be not more than two weeks, and more probably a week or ten days.

General Eisenhower's concern corresponds precisely to what bothers President Johnson. In a week or ten days free of bombing interdiction the enemy forces could assemble men and supplies which could inflict terrible casualties on the allied forces. Who wishes to take that risk in exchange for indefinite talks which may be no more than a ruse.

Far from hardening his demand for assurances from North Vietnam on this point, the President has reasserted it in somewhat more palatable form. He does not demand simply that the talks shall be productive, but that they should take place with "reasonable hopes" that they would be productive.

He has repeated that the other side shall not take advantage of a bombing cessation, and this has been his unaltered position from the beginning on talks with the North Vietnamese. There is no change. Secretary of State Dean Rusk has expressed and re-expressed this same position time after time. He has talked about it privately and publicly. The President has sent the same word to Hanoi many times.

The United States is not talking about starving to death the Northern forces in the South for lack of supplies. It is talking about war material and military replacements.

The reality of discussions with North Vietnam simply does not turn on semantics. There is no lack of understanding; we understand only too well that the government of North Vietnam has not yet given assurances that it will hold its forces in check while peace talks go on. The word has been sent to Hanoi that we consider peace talks to be a serious business and we will not talk peace, as during the Korean war, while enemy forces continue to kill Americans by the thousands.

This government desires a genuine cease-fire. It has been exploring thoroughly the Hanoi talk about peace talks because it believed that for the first time in four successive Januaries — 1965, 1966, 1967, and now 1968 — there was real substance on which to work.

The United States government is in contact with Hanoi through third parties on every phase of the President's San Antonio formula for ending the bombing as first stated and now stated again.

And if these explorations end in disappointment it will not be for lack of understanding, but because the security of American forces in North Vietnam was deemed paramount to peace talks which held no promise of being productive.

In all these months and years of wrangling about what words mean, it all comes down to what Dean Rusk said long ago: If North Vietnam will stop what it is doing, we will stop what we are doing.

WASHINGTON POST, 25 January 1968

Clifford Clients May Face Inquiry

By Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson

Clark Clifford, the new Secretary of Defense, allots himself three cigarettes a day, and lunches in his elegant paneled office on a sandwich and orange juice. He drinks prune juice as if it were a martini and is as careful of his diet as he is in handling the cases of his clients.

These clients, which range from the far-flung du Pont de Nemours to the Radio Corporation of America, from General Electric to El Paso Natural Gas and Phillips Petroleum, will be the only aspect of Clifford's career the Senate will want to examine.

He has almost never lost a case. One exception was the dispute over the sale of President Kennedy's Georgetown house in 1960. When Mr. Kennedy was first elected he sold the small brick house on N Street to Harry Ausbrook for $105,000, then considered a handsome and somewhat inflated price. But Mrs. Kennedy changed her mind, decided she didn't want to sell after all; and the President-elect asked Clark Clifford to get the house back.

But Ausbrook retained former Secretary of State Dean Acheson in his bid to keep the house. Acheson won.

Truman's Ghostwriter

Looking over Merry-Go-Round columns covering the Truman era, we noted and item published June 13, 1946, which read; "A new power in President Truman's entourage is Cmdr. Clark Clifford." Clifford had met Mr. Truman through his St. Louis friend, Stuart Symington, then a member of the Truman Little Cabinet.

In June 1946, the war was not quite one year over. Tremendous problems faced the new President. Significant items appeared in the column indicating the man who was chiefly helping Mr. Truman make the shift. On Oct. 12, 1946, it was noted that Clark Clifford had "usurped Harry Vaughan's office near Mr. Truman's" and that Vaughan was "outraged." The President himself had to suggest the shift before Vaughan would move.

On Dec. 22, 1946, it was noted that Clifford had begun drafting the State of the Union message. In January he advised Mr. Truman to end price controls and war powers. In June 1947 he revamped the entire housing program. In July he wrote Truman's message vetoing the Taft-Hartley Act.

Earlier, in February of that year, he had drafted the Army-Navy merger, a law which he will now have to live with as Secretary of Defense.

By the summer of 1947, the handsome attorney from eastern Missouri had become so powerful inside the White House that he aroused the jealousy of Truman advisers from western Missouri, notably Harry Vaughan.

Backing Vaughan were John Steelman and Matt Connelly. It was noted that they were leaking stories about Clifford, and heckled him in staff conferences.

Clifford continued to ghostwrite Mr. Truman's messages to Congress, but by 1950 jealousy inside the White House intensified to the point where he bowed out.

It was the opposition of Connelly and Steelman which caused Clifford to lose his first big case—the merger of Pan American Airways with American Overseas Air Line. Clifford was retained by TWA to block the merger. The CAB was with him. But Mr. Truman listened to his anti-Clifford advisers and ruled for the merger.

Corporations in Trouble

President Johnson once told a friend: "If you ever get into trouble—if you ever get arrested and need someone to help you out, get hold of Clark Clifford."

For the past 15 years, Clifford has been doing exactly that for some of the biggest corporations in the Nation. He was retained by General Electric after it was fined the largest amount in history and had three executives jailed in an antitrust case.

General Electric today ranges between being the Nation's second and fourth largest defense contractor. In 1967 it had defense orders totaling $1,289,800,000. This means that the new Secretary of Defense will be in somewhat the same position Charles E. Wilson of General Motors was in when he became Secretary of Defense. Wilson severed all connections with GM.

Clifford was also hired by duPont when its stockholders wanted to avoid paying a huge income tax following divestiture of General Motors. Clifford persuaded his friends in Congress to pass a special act saving du Pont millions. His fee, reported to be $1 million, was to be paid over a period of years.

If that fee is still running, Clifford will be in a worse position than either Wilson or Secretary of Defense McNamara who had to sell his stock in the Ford Motor Company. To give up an unpaid, continuing law fee will be a greater sacrifice than selling stock.

However, General Motors ranks ninth as a defense contractor with contracts totaling $625,100,000 in fiscal 1967; while du Pont had $179,600,000 in contracts. Both firms also have research and development grants from the Federal Government, du Pont having received $1,922,000 in 1966 and General Motors $53,166,000. This money is awarded through the Department of Defense.

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR 25 JANUARY 1968

Red bloc steps up Hanoi aid

By Paul Wohl

Sharply increased North Vietnamese and Viet Cong military activity seems to indicate that the Soviets and other Communist-ruled states were in earnest with the new defense pacts they concluded with North Vietnam in August and September. Their defense aid to Hanoi is rising.

According to a report of the Hanoi correspondent of Neues Deutschland, published on Jan. 18, North Vietnam has several highly specialized "antiaircraft artillery regiments."

Some East European correspondents in Hanoi believe that the North Vietnamese have even been given land-to-sea rockets which could threaten United States warships only a few miles off the North Vietnam coast.

Whatever the facts regarding specialized rockets, more and more Soviet military supplies are arriving in Vietnam.

Shipping gains reported

On Nov. 14, Radio Odessa announced in Ukrainian that traffic between Black Sea ports and ports in the Haiphong Gulf had increased sharply. At that time the Black Sea Shipping Administration stated that five Soviet diesel ships with more than 30,000 tons of cargo were en route and that two ships were unloading in Haiphong.

On Jan. 5, Soviet domestic broadcasters anhounced that 10 new dry-cargo vessels, listed by name, had left Black Sea ports, promising to complete the trip ahead of time. Moscow also disclosed that the vessels Romain Rolland, Partizanskaya Iskra, Berezovka and others were in Haiphong Harbor, which continued to operate normally "despite barbarous raids."

The motor ships Romain Rolland etc. are relatively fast 5,000-ton vessels. Such reports on the Soviet domestic radio would probably not exaggerate, as foreign aid is unpopular in some Soviet circles.

Moscow announced on that day, at 3 p.m., the Pereslavl-Zalesky, a slightly smaller Soviet vessel, had been bombed simultaneously by four planes with steel pellet bombs, that one delayed action bomb had exploded only six feet from the engine room, and that bombs continued to explode all around the ship until the morning of the 5th.

Supplies moving better

The Soviets now openly admit that their cargo ships carry military weapons of all sorts to Vietnam and that traffic moves by land across China. Olivier Todd, a writer for the middle-of-the-road French weekly Le Nouvel Observateur, who recently traveled for more than two months through North Vietnam, reported in December that the tripartite agreement of February, (between the Soviets, China, and North Vietnam) is now being respected by all sides and that a political transit problem no longer exists.

As early as April 15 of last year Radio Moscow announced that the "delivery of Soviet weapons to Vietnam has increased by sea and especially by land."

"Everywhere during my journey I saw Russian rockets and antiaircraft artillery," wrote Mr. Todd. In the West German weekly Die Zeit, he reported that throughout his trip he encountered formidable weapons of Russian and Chinese origin. In his report to Le Nouvel Observateur of Dec. 27, Mr. Todd stated that "seen from North Vietnam the socialist camp is more united than ever."

With the exception of Yugoslavia, every Communist state sends effective aid. From Czechoslovakia the Vietnamese receive pistols and small weapons; from the Chinese, heavy machine guns and light mortars; from the Soviets heavy artillery, from the Romanians medication and chemicals of all sorts; from the East Germans cranes, hydraulic pumps, and electric welding equipment.

Specialists exceed 12,000

"One sees trucks and other vehicles from all over the bloc sugar from Cuba, etc.," writes Mr. Todd; "Soviet tank trucks, heavy 15 tonners and light Chinese Gia-Phong trucks with round hoods."

More than 12,000 bloc specialists of all sorts are in North Vietnam. Mr. Todd mentioned Bulgarian physicians, Georgian geologists, etc. Several of these foreign specialists have been wounded or killed. "This counts more than all ideological differences," one Vietnamese remarked.

Since November, North Vietnam's antiaircraft defenses have been greatly improved. On Dec. 28, Soviet Deputy Defense Minister Gen. Pavel F. Batitsky intimated in Krasnaya Zvezda, the daily of the armed forces, that the Soviets are now sending Vietnam the most modern kind of antiaircraft defenses.

Some East European correspondents hold that the North Vietnamese have land-to-sea rockets of the type with which the Egyptians sank an Israeli gunboat. These rockets, Mr. Todd was told, "will be used at the right moment."

On Dec. 17, Krasnaya Zvezda reported that the training of North Vietnamese rocketmen is continued day and night, during raids and in the intervals between raids. The Vietnamese also are being taught preventive maintenance of the matériel.

Air Force strengthened

North Vietnam's Air Force also has been strengthened. The North Vietnamese are now receiving MIG-23's and fly these planes themselves. North Vietnamese apparently refuse to take orders from either Russian or Chinese officers.

In November, senior politburo member and party secretary Mikhail A. Suslov is reported to have told a visiting Japanese socialist that the Soviets had replaced "more than four-fifths of all the materiel and equipment which the Americans have destroyed in Vietnam."

On Dec. 19, Gen. Vsyevolod Leniyev reported on Moscow Radio that "weapons, ammunitions, military equipment, and medicines are the principal items of Soviet aid to Vietnam."

This aid now includes "reliable antiaircraft systems equipped with the latest combat weapons. North Vietnam also has been given supersonic pursuit planes, surface-to-air missiles, and other modern military devices." General Leniyev estimated that the Vietnamese had brought down more than $3 billion worth of United States planes.

"Military aid is being stepped up in accordance with an agreement of Sept. 23, which stipulates that the Soviets will supply even more planes, high-altitude missiles, artillery and infantry weapons, together with complete factories, means of transportation, petroleum products, iron and steel and nonferrous metal equipment, food, and fertilizer," the General added. Here he may have padded his facts, because this report was broadcast in Mandarin to China.

Aid milestone seen

Yet the agreement between the Soviets and North Vietnam of Sept. 23 does mark a milestone in Soviet aid to Hanoi. The agreement was negotiated by deputy premier Le Thanh-Nghi and his deputy Dinh Duc Thien, head of North Vietnamese logistics. Negotiations started on Aug. 14.

Premier Alexei N. Kosygin and the politburo's armaments specialist, Gen. Dmitry F. Ustinov, took part on the Soviet side, together with deputy premiers Venyamin Dymshits, Mikhail T. Yefremov

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WALL STREET JOURNAL
25 JANUARY 1968

Briefing VIP Visitors Is a Major Enterprise For Troops in Vietnam

By PETER J. KANN
Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

SAIGON—The Congressman, wearing a bright red cap emblazoned with five stars and the word BOSS, settled back in his chair, and a Navy officer launched into The Briefing—the 138th time he had given it in seven weeks.

"What are you going to do?" the officer asked later. "You can't slight the big shots."

VIP season lasts year-round in Vietnam—more than 2,000 privileged visitors came here last year—but the influx of lawmakers and other dignitaries reaches invasion proportions during the Christmas-New Year's period. More than 50 U.S. Senators and Representatives either visited last month or are doing so this month.

The VIPs have various motives for making the journey. Pentagon brass and Congressional investigators come on official business. Legislators who sit on pertinent committees come to get better informed. Other politicians who come ostensibly to "study" Vietnam are aware of the personal political profit they can garner from an on-the-spot look at the war.

The 'Treatment'

The format of the VIP tour may vary according to the particular interests of the visitor, but certain features are standard: Canned briefings, carefully guided tours with elaborate itineraries and an all-out effort by U.S. military and civilian personnel here—all at considerable expense to the U.S. taxpayer.

The workings of a characteristic visit were illustrated during the recent week-long tour of Rep. Joseph Y. Resnick of Ellenville, N.Y. Mr. Resnick is a burly and energetic self-made millionaire of 43 who first was elected to Congress in 1964. He recently announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination to seek the Senate seat of GOP incumbent Jacob Javits this fall.

A staunch supporter of President Johnson's Vietnam policies, Mr. Resnick had visited Vietnam twice previously, during the Christmas holidays in 1965 and 1966. This time he broadened his travels to include several other Far Eastern nations, permitting, he said, a view of Vietnam "in an Asian perspective."

The stage for Rep. Resnick's Vietnam visit was set at a Bangkok, Thailand, press conference in which he assailed Sen. J. William Fulbright, dovish chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The failure of that committee to send members on an "official visit to the nations of southeast Asia as I am doing," Mr. Resnick said, amounts to "criminal negligence."

A Free Ride

Since Mr. Resnick wasn't traveling on House committee business, his trip was financed privately. But an Air Force T-39 jet was sent to Bangkok from Saigon to ferry the Resnick party here, with the approval of the American ambassadors in both capitals. The party included Mr. Resnick, his administrative aide, his 19-year-old son and his 17-year-old daughter.

Saigon planners painstakingly devised an itinerary for the visit in collaboration with Mr. Resnick's aide, but problems developed on the first day of the tour, with the Congressman threatening to "pack up and leave." He objected to "wasting" a day on general briefings in Saigon; several of them were canceled. And he wanted to visit troops in the field, rather than pacification projects. A third grievance: His children weren't granted use of Government helicopters to visit outlying areas (escorted tours had been arranged for them in the Saigon area).

Mr. Resnick's pique exploded into fury at the Saigon airport, where he berated a hapless colonel, a protocol officer, for the flawed arrangements. "You've nearly ruined my entire trip," the Congressman said. "I specifically asked to see troops in the field. . . . I've seen pacification. . . . I've seen refugees. . . ."

He also castigated the colonel for having his children restricted to Saigon. "Now my daughter won't be able to write an article for Teen Age America," Mr. Resnick complained. Enlisted men and subordinate officers stood by in

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BRIEFING VIP VISITORS IN VIETNAM ---- Continued

embarrassment at the spectacle of a senior officer being dressed down in their presence. "I've never seen anything like that," a helicopter pilot murmured.

An Ethnic Interest

The four days of field visits got under way with a revised itinerary. Rep. Resnick, who is Jewish, had expressed special interest in meeting New York GIs, and particularly Jewish New Yorkers. A Jewish chaplain, Rabbi Gary Rosenberg, was provided as Mr. Resnick's military escort at the Congressman's request. Also in the party were his aide, a photographer from the U.S. Agency for International Development requested by the Congressman, and this reporter.

The first stop, reached by helicopter, was 9th Infantry Division headquarters, and the procedure proved typical of the tour. Generals and colonels flourishing pointers at elaborate charts and maps gave stock briefings, heavy on statistics. These were largely optimistic in tone, but some speakers touched on such problems as poor leadership in the Vietnamese army, corruption, entrenched Vietcong cadres and increasingly effective Vietcong weaponry. Mr. Resnick listened closely.

Certain field units visited by Mr. Resnick are regular stops on the VIP itinerary. A colonel at an Army base south of Saigon, complaining that he had to give 40 briefings a month called his unit "a real watering spot on the VIP circuit." An officer at the Marine First Division explained that one of its units was "the display battalion—close to Da Nang and safe."

The meetings with the troops also followed a set format. In most units on the itinerary, lists of New Yorkers had been prepared in advance, and the men were rounded up to meet the VIP. These gatherings usually began with a short speech by the Congressman praising the men's contribution to their country and criticizing antiwar demonstrators ("anti-American kooks") at home.

The GIs were invited to ask questions. Then it was time for gifts. While the AID photographer snapped pictures, each New Yorker received a handsome sheath knife, donated by a knife company in Rep. Resnick's district. Each unit visited got a carton of Kool-Aid, donated by the manufacturer.

Rabbi Rosenberg was given the task of toting the gifts. Initially he joked good-naturedly about "feeling like Santa Claus," but toward the end of the tour his patience wore thin. "So for this I went to rabbinical school," he muttered darkly, "to schlepp (carry) knives for a Congressman."

At each stop, Mr. Resnick distributed small printed forms to the men from New York, on which they could fill in their names and addresses and messages for their families. The Congressman promised to relay the messages with personal telephone calls when he returned to the U.S.

The meetings with constituents were lively affairs at some installations. Marines at an air wing in Da Nang bombarded the Congressman with questions and showed that they appreciated his visit. "I got duty flying crew on a C-130 bringing bodies back from the bases up north," said Cpl. Dock Brown of St. Albans, N.Y. "Man, you sit in that plane staring at all those dead guys, and sometimes, you know you wonder if it's all worth it. It's good to have an important guy like this come over from the states and say it is."

A Circumspect Reserve

But most New York GIs were reserved, listening politely but rarely asking questions. Mr. Resnick surmised that some might be "awed" by meeting a Congressman, while others "don't know me from a hole in the ground." Possibly the troops were inhibited by the inevitable presence of senior officers. "Look at all those bird colonels standing around," one GI said. "You think they're just here for their health or something?"

At 9th Infantry Division headquarters, New York GIs were in short supply. An enterprising young captain solved the problem by herding a random group of GIs into a conference room to meet the VIP. "Hey, what's going on?" one GI asked. "I'm from Illinois." "Yeah, and I'm from Michigan," said another. "Shhhh," said the nervous captain.

All went well until Rep. Resnick invited "all you New Yorkers" to step forward to receive knives and fill out address forms. Most of the men, eager to get knives but apprehensive about the forms, remained seated. After a long pause, the captain finally volunteered that some of the GIs weren't exactly New Yorkers, but out-of-staters sincerely interested in meeting the Congressman. The audience then rose en masse for the laying on of knives.

Another contretemps took place at a hospital near Da Nang. While Mr. Resnick and the photographer were with wounded marines in a ward, three Marines clutching cameras came sprinting along a path to the hospital. "Where is he?" they shouted. "Where is he?"

It was explained that the Representative was in a ward. "Representative?" a Marine said. "Representative what? We heard this guy with a red cap was here, man, and figured it was Bob Hope." The three turned away dejectedly and walked back down the path.

The military briefings invariably were conducted with practiced precision. At a Marine battalion headquarters near Da Nang, U.S. and enemy weapons were on display, each labeled with a printed explanatory sign. An enthusiastic Marine colonel, the battalion commander, gave a talk.

"Got a Cong killer here," the colonel said, producing a lanky young Marine who had shot an enemy soldier earlier in the day. "When I hear a visitor is coming I tell my Marines to capture a Cong for him," the colonel continued in a staccato New England accent. "This Cong wouldn't cooperate. Had to kill him. Sorry."

Gunfire sounded in the distance. "Don't worry yourself, sir," the colonel said. "My Marines are out in that treeline. Any Cong tries to come up here, some shifty-eyed, foul-mouthed Marine will drop him on the spot."

The Civilians

Most of Mr. Resnick's time in the field was spent at military installations (including an encampment of Thai Troops and an Australian outpost), but he also visited two communities of Vietnamese civilians. One of these communities, northwest of Saigon, was being helped by a Philippine civic action program.

The Philippine commanding general greeted the VIP helicopter, and a giant banner proclaimed "Welcome Congressman Resneck." The VIP party was treated to a display of civic action. Doctors and dentists treated patients. Glass-making and brick-making were demonstrated. A band played lively tunes. The VIP group got cake and a briefing before departing.

Two days later the Resnick party saw Edap Enang, a Montagnard refugee resettlement camp in the Central Highlands. Awaiting the visitors was another banner, plus about 300 Montagnards lined up behind warriors carrying ceremonial shields and spears.

As Rep. Resnick passed along the rows of natives they clapped and cheered, in unison, "Hello, hello, hello." A Vietnamese official watched proudly. "You like Montagnard ceremony?" he asked a visitor. "Montagnards very happy. Montagnards welcome beaucoup American bosses here."

A U.S. Army captain stationed at Edap Enang watched scornfully. "These Montagnards are really getting sick of this stuff, lining up and clapping every time some VIP comes in," he said. "They don't even know what's going on. It's just one big show."

The captain pointed to the reviewing stand. "Look at all those Vietnamese officials," he said. "The only time they ever come around here is when a VIP is visiting. Ten minutes after your chopper takes off there's going to be one hell of an exodus of Vietnamese officials out of this place." (Many Vietnamese consider the Montagnard tribesmen inferior savages.)

Rep. Resnick's Vietnam visit concluded with a champagne breakfast for the press corps in Saigon. There he repeated his criticism of doves in the Senate, cited various indicators of progress in the war, and drew a conclusion: "Whatever way you want to measure it, we are winning the war and winning it big."

HANOI AID ---- Continued

and Leonid V. Smirnov, the minister of the ocean fleet, and many other high officials.

The extent to which Soviet relations with Southeast Asia now are in the grip of the current military conflict is shown by the fact that the head of the Foreign Ministry's department for Southeast Asia is now a military officer, Maj.-Gen. S. Kapitsa. This became known through the communiqué on the signing of the September agreement.

Prior to visiting Moscow, deputy premier Le Thanh-Nghi signed similar industrial and military aid agreements in Peking on Aug. 5, and in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang on Aug. 11.

While negotiations in Moscow continued on the technical level, the North Vietnamese deputy premier flew to Havana, Sofia, and Bucharest, where additional aid agreements were signed. Romanian exports to North Vietnam, incidentally, increased by 150 percent between 1965 and 1966. Last year saw another big increase.

Hard-liner Suslov and his group in the Kremlin seem to be determined to stop United States military action in Southeast Asia at any price, and Mr. Brezhnev so far has gone along with them.

In this connection it was significant that North Vietnamese Defense Minister Vo Nguyen Giap, the victor of Dien Bien Phu, could write in Krasnaya Zvezda of Oct. 21 that the Vietnamese were fighting not only to "liberate" South Vietnam, but also to "defend North Vietnam as the advance post of the socialist camp in Asia."

This year is to mark the beginning of the increased Communist effort. Some aid agreements extend into 1969. According to a report in the usually reliable Neue Zuercher Zeitung, the Soviets are building with high speed new port facilities in their Black Sea, as well as in their Pacific harbors.

AEROSPACE DAILY, 24 January 1968 (25)

STAATS TO TESTIFY ON SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AT PROCUREMENT HEARING

U.S. Comptroller General Elmer B. Staats will testify about systems analysis in government agencies including the military Monday at a hearing before the Joint Economic Committee's Subcommittee on Economy in Government.

The hearing will be an extension of an investigation begun last summer into planning methods used by agencies. A result of the survey has been publication of a report titled "Programming-Planning-Budgeting."

Sen. William E. Proxmire (D-Wisc.), chairman of the committee and its subcommittee, said the probe has shown that agencies use "economically irrational" interest rates in weighing various planned programs. In many cases no attempt is made to consider the rate of return to taxpayers if the money were used in the public or private sectors of the economy, he added.

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JAN 68

CURRENT NEWS

Press

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1968

NEW YORK TIMES 26 January 1968 P1

Clifford Opposes Any Halt In Vietnam Bombing Now

By JOHN W. FINNEY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25—Clark M. Clifford emphasized today that as Secretary of Defense he would oppose any cessation of the bombing of North Vietnam under present political and military circumstances.

Testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Mr. Clifford defended the military effectiveness of the bombing and made clear that he believed it should continue until Hanoi retreats from its present "intransigent attitude."

Mr. Clifford indicated, however, that the Administration was not asking North Vietnam to end all military activity in the South or stop its "normal" supply of men and supplies into South Vietnam. All the Administration demands, he suggested, is that North Vietnam not take advantage of a bombing suspension by increasing the flow of men and supplies into the South.

The committee quickly and unanimously approved the nomination of Mr. Clifford, a Washington lawyer and longtime friend and adviser of President Johnson, to succeed Robert S. McNamara as Secretary of Defense.

The nomination will be formally submitted to the Senate next week, and the expectation was that Mr. Clifford would assume command of the defense establishment by the middle of next month.

From the lengthy testimony it was apparent that the Clifford command would probably result in considerable change in the policy directions established during Mr. McNamara's seven years at the Pentagon.

From the cordial political reception accorded Mr. Clifford, it was apparent that he could be expected to bring an end to the growing tension, sometimes bordering on hostility, that had been developing between the Congressional armed services committees and the Defense Department under Mr. McNamara. Under questioning for nearly three hours, Mr. Clifford repeatedly drew himself apart from Mr. McNamara's policy in several areas, to the evident satisfaction of committee members.

In contrast to Mr. McNamara's suggestions that the United States could move toward a position of "nuclear

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NEW YORK TIMES 26 January 1968 P1

KHESANH SHELLED UNDER FOG COVER

By CHARLES MOHR
Special to The New York Times

KHESANH, South Vietnam, Jan. 25—Last night's savage shelling of the United States marines outpost here was carried out under a protective cover of fog and clouds.

Khesanh had been relatively quiet for two days, although there had been sporadic fire on the airfield and marine trenches and bunkers.

At about 4:30 yesterday afternoon the fog rolled down from the surrounding mountains near the Laos border and soon covered the outpost.

At 5:10 P.M. powerful 140-mm. rockets of Soviet design began to crash into the camp.

"That's incoming!" marines shouted, scrambling for bunkers, trenches and fox holes.

U.S. Jets Never Came

For about five minutes the only sound was the din of North Vietnamese rockets and mortar and artillery rounds hitting the camp. Then the Khesanh marine artillery batteries began counter-fire.

"Where's the jets?" marines asked, listening for the whine of jet engines and the thump of exploding bombs.

The answer was that Air Force and Marine fighter bombers could not come to the help of the more than 5,000 marines in and around Khesanh because of the weather. Pilots could not have seen the fiery traces of rockets or the flash of guns and mortars.

The enemy had waited for this bad weather to attack with virtual impunity.

"This is definitely their kind of day,' said one sergeant.

After 40 minutes of heavy

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BALTIMORE SUN 26 January 1968 P1

CALL-UP RECEIVES GUARDED BACKING

By NATHAN MILLER
(Washington Bureau of The Sun)

Washington, Jan. 25—President Johnson's decision to call up Air Force and Navy reservists was greeted today with a mixture of concern, caution and support in Congress.

Some members expressed fear that the move meant an eventual widening of the war in the Far East. Others said the President was acting with restraint while showing determination to get back the U.S.S. Pueblo and its 83 crewmen.

Caught By Surprise

The news of the President's action caught most of the lawmakers by surprise with some saying they had not heard of it before being questioned by newsmen. There were some complaints about the lack of information available from the Administration.

Senator Mansfield (D., Mont.), the majority leader, who has long been uneasy about the possibilty of the spread of the Vietnam war, said the over-all situation is "grave, dangerous and gloomy..."

Too Slow On The Trigger

"It indicated the seriousness of the situation which now confronts us in the Pueblo seizure," he continued. "It indicates a possibility of the widening of the difficulties which confront us on the Far East."

But Senator Dirksen (R., Ill.), the minority leader, said he favored calling up the reserve units, extending enlistments and appropriating adequate funds to do the job.

"We're too slow on the trigger here in Washington," declared the Senator, who is recovering at home from the flu. "We must do what we have to do to get that ship back. We should also do what the best military judgment dictates."

In the House, Representative Findley (R., Ill.) introduced a "Sense of the Congress" resolution that would put the body on record as giving the President, as Commander in Chief, the authority to take whatever action is necessary to recover both the crew and the ship.

"The country is obviously divided and concerned over policies in the land war in Vietnam and discussion of these policies .... must not be permitted to

CONTINUED PAGE 2

NEW YORK TIMES 26 January 1968 P1

Johnson Move Viewed as Precautionary in Ship Seizure Crisis

By TOM WICKER
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25 — President Johnson ordered 14,787 Air Force and Navy reservists to active duty today as a military backdrop to determined diplomatic efforts to recover an American ship seized by North Korea.

Mr. Johnson followed up his active duty order with an appeal to the United Nations Security Council for action.

Diplomatically, Ambassador Llewellyn E. Thompson was believed ready to make a second effort in Moscow to persuade the Soviet Union to intercede with the North Koreans to release the U.S.S. Pueblo and the 83 Americans aboard.

The day's activity, the private testimony of informed officials and several public statements made it plain that the Administration was placing its main reliance on diplomatic action and would order military steps against North Korea only after all other courses had been exhausted.

Viewed as Precautionary

Thus, the call-up of reservists — in 28 Air Force and Navy units with 372 combat and transport aircraft at their disposal — was pictured here as primarily precautionary, but also as a signal of firm intent to North Korea.

The call-up was limited to air units because, if the seizure of the Pueblo should be followed by North Korean military action against the Republic of South Korea, additional air power would be the immediate military requirement in that area.

Within the Administration, however, there was no clear judgment on North Korean intentions. As one official put it, the Administration was "watching all possibilities" and trying to prepare for any development.

Another described the seizure of the Pueblo as an act so "irrational" as to defy any confident interpretation or analysis.

Mr. Johnson's action in call-

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PREPARED BY THE AIR FORCE (SAF-AA) AS EXECUTIVE AGENT FOR THE DOD TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF KEY DEFENSE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL MATTERS WITHIN THEIR OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITIES. NO OTHER USE OF THIS PUBLICATION IS AUTHORIZED.

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CALL-UP RECEIVES GUARDED BACKING—Cont

leave the erroneous impression of disunity in regard to the Pueblo affair," Findley said.

Representative Mathias (R., Md.) read a letter to Robert S. McNamara, the Secretary of Defense, that raised the question as to whether the call-up had been planned for some time and put into effect now.

"It has been obvious to me and others for more than a year a severe shortage of pilots has been developing," he wrote. "It has been equally obvious that, unless some measure of deescalation could be achieved in Vietnam, steps such as the call-up ... would have to be taken to meet the long-standing need, which is apparently only being met under the pressure of immediate events.

"I would greatly appreciate your advising me as to such programs as may exist for the procurement and training of necessary armed forces, including pilots, in an orderly manner predicated not on crises but on predictable and foreseeable needs."

Senator Tydings (D., Md.), in a speech on the floor, said the nation is "alarmed, angered and concerned" about the fate of the hijacked Pueblo and its crew. He called for the exercise of caution and restraint, however.

"I think Congress should investigate the policy of sending these ships into dangerous waters without air cover, naval escort or the means of self-defense," Tydings said.

And Senator Brewster (D., Md.) said the situation is "grave" and must not go unchallenged. But he pointed out that the safety of the Pueblo's crewmen "is of paramount consideration and must be the immediate concern."

"I am confident that our Government is doing all it can to resolve the problem and I support the actions taken by the Government so far."

Senator Aiken (R., Vt.), a persistent critic of the Administration's Asian policies, said the call-up was necessary "if we are going into North Korea." He added, "we ought to leave a couple of million men" in reserve for possible trouble in the Middle East.

The New Englander recalled that more than a year ago he suggested that if President Johnson was going to have a war, he ought to do "what you have to do in a war"—mobilize, impose wage and price controls and take similar measures.

Senator Russell (D., Ga.), chairman of the Armed Services Committee, described the call-up as a natural sequence in the course of world events. Russell said he favors "exhausting every recourse the channels of diplomacy will offer" for return of the ship.

"But in the last analysis," Russell added, "the country must get the return of the ship and the men that were seized. After all, great wars have started from much less serious incidents than this."

On the other hand, Senator Gruening (D., Alaska), a leading "dove," said he thought the call-up was "a very alarming action. It would indicate the President anticipates a deepening and a widening of the war," he said.

Senator Percy (R., Ill.), mentioned as a presidential contender, was cautious, saying that he — like most members of Congress — lacked information on the case. He pointed out that he had not been given any briefing, although during the Middle East crisis last summer there were as many as two briefings a day.

In a speech he was to give in New York, Senator Morton R., Ky.) said "American foreign policy is hung up on the dated dogma of the cold war ... unless we move with dispatch to dispel some of the illusions that presently obstruct our foreign policy vision, we may find ourselves sharing with China the title of 'the Last of the Idealogues.'"

The Senator added that the success of American foreign policy urgently demands a presidential initiative for a reexamination of relations with the Soviet Union.

"If major confrontations are to be avoided and minor brushfire conflicts are to be controlled, it is absolutely essential that we move at once to reach an accord with the Soviet Union," Morton said.

"Having made anti-communism an American ideology, at the expense of understanding and effectively combatting Soviet imperialism, it is going to be immensely difficult to revise our thinking and our actions," he added.

The "dovish" Morton said earlier that mail from his constituents, which normally runs in favor of restraint in Vietnam, now was demanding immediate action to recover the Pueblo.

He added that rising public pressure may require the United States to "go in" after the ship if diplomatic attempts to free it and the crew fail. "I think the American people are demanding it."

N.Y. TIMES 1/26/68 P20

Widow Gets Pilot's Medal

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP) —The Medal of Honor, awarded posthumously to Capt. Hilliard A. Wilbanks, an Air Force pilot, was presented Wednesday to his widow, Mrs. Rosemary Wilbanks of Glen Allan, Miss., by Secretary of the Air Force Harold Brown. Captain Wilbanks, flying a light, unarmed reconnaissance plane, was killed when he went to the assistance of a beleaguered South Vietnamese battalion, firing at the enemy with a rifle and enabling the battalion to withdraw.

US ORDERS AIR RESERVISTS TO ACTIVE DUTY...Continued

ing up Reserve units this morning was followed this afternoon by his appeal for a Security Council meeting. Both were announced by George Christian, the White House press secretary.

The Reserve call-up followed a White House breakfast meeting of the President, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and Arthur J. Goldberg, United States representative to the United Nations.

Assistant Secretary of Defense Phil G. Goulding, the Pentagon spokesman, said the call-up had been recommended by the Joint Chiefs of Staff as well as by Mr. McNamara.

When Mr. Christian was asked if the Reserve call was linked to the seizure of the Pueblo, he replied:

"Well, I think the link is there. This is an action deemed appropriate under the circumstances as they exist today."

He did not rule out the possibility of a call-up of Army and Marine Corps reservists, but there were no indications that any such action was impending.

At about the same time, on Capitol Hill, Clark M. Clifford, the President's choice to replace Mr. McNamara as Secretary of Defense, told the Senate Armed Services Committee how reluctant the Administration was to take military action.

'Will Make Every Effort'

"The President is making every effort to find a diplomatic solution," Mr. Clifford said at a hearing on his nomination, "because, if one will analyze those courses of action [military options], none of those get our 83 men back, and the President would like very much to get these 83 Americans out of the hands of the North Koreans. And I believe that he will make every effort along the diplomatic front to achieve that purpose."

Asked if an "overt military move" might not jeopardize the safety of the Pueblo's crew, Mr. Clifford replied:

"That is entirely possible, and I think that the President must be convinced that he has exhausted the diplomatic alternatives before any other action is taken."

Mr. Clifford told the committee, which later approved his nomination, that he sat in yesterday on White House meetings concerning the Korean situation "from early morning until late at night."

Senators Are Advised

He was therefore able to tell the Senators, in advance of Mr. Christian's announcement, that a call-up of some reservists "could come about as a result" of the Peublo incident.

At the State Department, after Mr. Johnson's order to the reservists was issued, the official spokesman, Robert J. McCloskey, said that the action did not downgrade the importance of "continuing" diplomatic efforts.

Mr. McCloskey replied, "No comment," when asked about Ambassador Thompson's reported second effort to enlist Russian aid.

Informed sources firmly denied that the Pueblo incident had merely provided a pretext for a Reserve call-up that the Administration wished to make in any case. If there were a sizable activation of Reserves for duty in the war in Vietnam, it is believed here that there might be a strong political protest.

Administration sources insisted that the Air Force and Navy reservists were being called solely because of the possible requirements of the Korean situation. This suggested that, if a diplomatic solution could be found for the release of the Pueblo and her crew, these reservists might soon be released.

Could Serve 2 Years

Mr. Johnson has authority to call Reserve units into the service for up to 24 months, but there is no minimum term. When 14,000 Air Force reservists were summoned to duty in October, 1962, in the Cuban missile crisis, they were released a month later, after the crisis eased.

The last major call-up occurred in 1961, when President Kennedy ordered about 150,000 reservists, mostly Army reservists, to active duty as part of a build-up of American forces in the Soviet-American confrontation over Berlin. These reservists served about 10 months.

The President acted today under authority granted him in the Defense Appropriation Act of 1967. Under that authority, he can call units of the Ready Reserves of any of the armed forces, when he deems it necessary, for up to 24 months.

The 14,787 men summoned to duty today consisted of 9,340 from the Air National Guard, 4,847 from the Air Force Reserve and 600 from the Navy Reserve.

The 28 units in which they are grouped—six Navy Reserve, eight Air Force Reserve and 14 Air National Guard—are equipped with 200 Air Force F-100 Super Sabre fighter planes, 54 Air Force RF-101 Voodoo reconnaissance planes, 46 Air Force transport planes, 36 Navy A-4B jet bombers and 36 Navy F-8B Crusader jet fighters.

Although no deployment plans were available tonight, informed sources considered it unlikely that any of the Reserve units called today would be sent to potential combat areas. Instead, they will probably be used for the relief of regular units, which could then be deployed for possible action.

Already, the United States has moved two squadrons of Air Force fighter-bombers from Okinawa to South Korea, and the aircraft carrier Enterprise, with a screening force, has been diverted to a station 200 miles off the North Korean coast.

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KHESANH SHELLED... Continued

shelling, silence fell over Khesanh. At 6:30 P.M. another barrage began and lasted 20 minutes. For the rest of the night it was relatively quiet, with only isolated rounds striking the marine positions.

A Direct Hit Kills 4

One rocket hit at the door of a bunker occupied by marines from a reconnaissance company, killing four men. Three other marines died in the two barrages and 77 were wounded, 34 badly enough to be evacuated to rear hospitals by helicopter.

The weather at Khesanh will be a continuing problem for many weeks as the marines attempt to hold this post against the extremely large enemy forces that have surrounded it.

On a good morning in Khesanh, the fog and mist burn off the airfield by about 9:30. On many mornings it is 11 o'clock before it is clear enough to land aircraft. On the four hill positions around Khesanh, occupied by units of 200 or so men or even smaller groups, good weather comes even later.

In the late afternoon and at night at this time of year it is not unusual for weather to prevent air support.

'Sitting in Fixed Positions'

"Without ir support the North Vietnamese may have more firepower than we do," said one marine, "and we are sitting in fixed positions where they can make every shot hit."

When the weather is good the air arm has extended itself to the limit to support Khesanh. Yesterday and this morning fighter bombers carried out 301 strikes near Khesanh, a record effort in any battle for one day.

Each plane can carry about 5,000 pounds of bombs and napalm, meaning that they hit the jungled hills with about one and a half million pounds of bombs.

Three air strikes were carried out by B-52 heavy bombers, each of which can carry 30 tons of bombs. The number of planes in each strike is not announced, however.

The situation at Khesanh, however, is by no means an encouraging one despite such massive air support.

Copters Couldn't Land

A reporter who spent most of yesterday afternoon trying to hitch a helicopter ride to "Our listening posts hear black where," said one junior officer. one of the four hill positions finally learned what had not been announced in Danang or Saigon. Supply helicopters could notland at any of the hill positions because the landing zones were "hot," meaning that every helicopter that flew in came under enemy fire.

Supplies were dropped from sling so that the craft would not stay long enough to be good targets for the enemy forces that have surrounded the units on the hills.

Nonethless, from a trench on the north side of the airfield it was possible to see a large, two-rotor C-46 helicopter shot down yesterday, smoke trailing from its damaged engine.

"Get an azimuth on that helicopter," shouted an officer, hoping to get help promptly to the crew. Another helicopter swooped down and apparently rescued the crew.

The North Vietnamese and Vietcong have moved in so close to Khesanh proper that they are shelling its helicopter landing zone from only three-quarters of a mile away with small 60-mm mortars.

One enemy .50-caliber machine gun was within a few of the runway yesterday and was shooting at transport planes.

The leisurely coughing of the machine gun could be heard from the trenches of C company, First Battallion, 26th Marine Regiment.

Because the enemy was using tracer ammunition, however, the gun could not be located. The gun was probably in one of the deep gorges that surrounded the airfield.

"They're out there every hats [enemy soldiers] moving every night."

Shelling Is Continued

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Jan. 25 (AP)—Despite heavy bombing attacks by United States aircraft, enemy guns shelled the Khesanh airfield again today in an apparent effort to cut the flow of supplies and reinforcements to the defenders.

American transport pilots braved both rocket and artillery explosions on the ground and antiaircraft fire aloft to pour cargo and men to the base.

Marine planes were still landing at dusk although one rocket round scored a direct hit on the 4,000-foot-long runway, about 20 yards from a C-130 Hercules transport. Air Force planes parachuted rations, sandbags and other supplies.

CLIFFORD OPPOSES ANY HALT IN BOMBING NOW ...Continued

parity" with the Soviet Union, Mr. Clifford came out squarely and emphatically for maintaining a clear-cut "nuclear supremacy."

In other areas, Mr. Clifford said the following:

¶He "intuitively" supports a follow-on bomber for the B-52, a step opposed for years by Mr. McNamara.

¶He has serious reservations about the controversial McNamara proposal for merging the Army Reserves into the National Guard.

¶He favors, though he did not specifically commit himself, the construction of more nuclear-powered warships than has been permitted in the McNamara regime.

But probably the most dramatic policy shift is likely to occur on the issue of whether to continue the bombing of North Vietnam. On this issue, it was evident from his testimony that Mr. Clifford can be expected to assume a much more "hard-line" position than Mr. McNamara's.

While never splitting the Administration on the bombing issue, Mr. McNamara testified last August before a Senate Armed Services subcommittee that he questioned the military effectiveness of the bombing in limiting or preventing the resupply of Communist forces in South Vietnam.

In contrast, Mr. Clifford said the bombing had served "extremely useful purposes" in impeding the movement of supplies and troops into South Vietnam.

Mr. Clifford, who has served as chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, said that intelligence reports told "an exceedingly dramatic story of the value of the bombing" in describing Communist offensives that had to be canceled or delayed for lack of munitions and supplies from the North.

Citing the advantage that North Vietnam has taken of past bombing pauses for resupply efforts, Mr. Clifford took the position that any bombing suspension, without a reciprocal military move by Hanoi, would be "damaging" and lead to more American allies.

Mr. Clifford placed the burden for any suspension of the bombing upon some change in the position of North Vietnam. "In my opinion it can't stop with their present wholly and completely intransigent attitude," he said.

From the United States point of view, he said, President Johnson has offered "almost an irreducible minimum" in proposing, first in a San Antonio speech last September and then again in his State of the Union Message, that the United States would stop the bombing if North Vietnam would agree to start talks promptly and agree not to take advantage of the bombing suspension.

Mr. Clifford provided the first authoritative definition of the terms of the "San Antonio formula," particularly on what the Administration means when it says that it would "assume" that North Vietnam would not take advantage of a bombing suspension.

NEW YORK TIMES
26 January 1968 P20

M'GUIRE REJECTS USE AS JETPORT

Air Force Confirms Need for Full Military Base

A proposal that McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey be used in part as a commercial jetport has been turned down by the Air Force.

The proposal has been advanced repeatedly over the last several years by Senator Clifford D. Case, New Jersey Republican. Last September he and Gov. Richard J. Hughes asked the Air Force to study the possibility of joint military-civilian use of the base.

In a release made available here yesterday, the service said an extensive study had "confirmed the need for its continued full military use."

McGuire lies within the Fort Dix military reservation in Burlington and Ocean Counties and is about 76 miles southwest of Manhattan.

The Port of New York Authority had previously rejected it as a jetport site because of its remoteness, and the Federal Aviation Administration has been cool to the idea because of a potential conflict with north-south air lanes.

A spokesman for Governor Hughes said he was disappointed by the findings but had said that "the defense needs of this country must have priority." The Governor was quoted as saying:

"This decision does not shake my resolve to do everything possible to locate a jetport in that area."

The Air Force said that the major conclusions of its study were as follows:

¶An "unimpeded military airlift capability is essential" for immediate response to wartime or other contingencies.

¶There are no alternative installations available in the Northeast, "which could accommodate the McGuire mission."

¶To conduct McGuire training missions at other Northeast bases would require $2.2-million more a year and "would degrade wartime effectiveness if active and reserve peacetime airlift training is separated from the wartime operating site."

The service branch said it shared some bases with civilian airlines where civilian airports were inadequate but that the civil flights did not interfere with the military missions.

A proposal to locate a new jetport in the Pine Barrens area of Burlington and Ocean Counties—which Governor Hughes supports—has stirred opposition among state conservationist groups.

BALTIMORE SUN
26 January 1968 P5

Macmillan Asks Big-Power Talks

Los Angeles, Jan. 25 (AP) — Harold Macmillan, Britain's former Prime Minister, said today it is time for another summit meeting among the great powers.

"The great powers are arming more and more intensively against each other . . . yet in their hearts they know quite well that they are not going to fight each other and that they have, in fact, little to quarrel about," he said.

He spoke to the World Affairs Council of Los Angeles.

Macmillan said, "Surely this is the time to seek a new combination and a new alignment. Surely we should now aim at another summit meeting in far more hopeful circumstances, in which a practical plan for the pacification of the world could be agreed, based if not on mutual affection, at least on common fears."

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WASHINGTON POST
26 January 1968 P1

South Korea Urges 'Stern' U.S. Action

By Richard Halloran
Washington Post Foreign Service

SEOUL, Jan. 25—The Premier of South Korea warned today that another Korean war will break out unless the United States takes "stern action" to recover the captured intelligence ship Pueblo from North Korea and the U.S.-dominated United Nations Command here finds a way to stop North Korean guerrilla infiltration and violence.

Premier Chung Il Kwon said his government's major concern is what the United States will do. If Washington does not take strong measures, he said, American leadership in Asia will be seriously threatened.

Chung said in an interview that the United States should set a time limit for the return of the Pueblo and its crew. He declined to specify what stern action he advocated, but other Korean sources indicted they want military action, possibly from the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise, now cruising in Korean waters.

If the United States does not treat North Korea firmly, Chung said, the Communists will repeat such incidents, requiring more U.S. sacrifices.

Chung said that if the United States "seems subdued" by North Korea, Pyongyang will be encouraged to engage in another war. He said North Korean Premier Kim Il Sung ordered the Pueblo to be taken to test the U.S. will to act. Kim believes the United States will not act because it is tied down in Vietnam, the Premier said.

Chung was commander in chief of his country's armed forces in the Korean war, later Ambassador to Washington and then Foreign Minister before becoming Premier. He has always advocated a hard-line policy towards Communists in Korea and Vietnam.

Referring to the attempted assassination of President Park Chung Hee Sunday, the Premier said that unless incidents like this are stopped North Korean guerrilla activity will lead to a situation so chaotic that "we will be faced with another Korean war."

On the military front today, the U.S. 2d Division guarding the Demilitarized Zone was involved in three or four firefights with small North Korean units. One American soldier was killed. [Another American soldier was killed Friday, the AP reported.] Since Sunday 13 others have been wounded.

American and South Korean troops continued searching for the remaining members of the man suicide squad that tried to kill President Park. Nineteen have been killed and one captured. South Korean casualties as of today were 16 dead and 34 wounded.

During the day, another small North Korean unit was sighted on a small island off the coast of southeastern Korea. No details were available.

Sources here say the Pueblo's capture will strengthen the influence of hard-liners in Pyongyang, boost the morale of North Korea's armed forces, give North Korea prestige among militant Communist countries and provide the Communists with important technical information about U.S. electronic spying capabilities.

In another interview, the director of operations for the South Korean joint chiefs of staff said there is a "very strong" feeling in his country's armed forces that retaliatory action should be taken against North Korea for the assassination attempt and the Pueblo seizure.

Maj. Gen. Lew Pyong Hun said the United Nations Command should take "proper action" to assure that such incidents do not recur. He said this is the responsibility of the U.N. commander, but did not specify what he considered proper action.

American officials here have been worried for several months about growing South Korean sentiment in favor of retaliation for increasing North Korean penetrations and violence. One unpublicized raid north of the DMZ occurred last summer. South Koreans often remind Americans that South Korea did not sign the 1953 armistice—but they are also aware that they cannot move without American logistic support.

Lew, former commander of the Korean Tiger Division in Vietnam, today stressed South Korea's commitment to collective security and indicated that his government is not considering taking things into its own hands at this time.

Lew indicated that South Korea would undertake more aggressive patrolling and reconnaissance across the DMZ and is re-examining its defensive posture in light of Sunday's infiltration into Seoul.

Beneath the surface there is some dissension between Americans and South Koreans. The Koreans have been pressing the United States for more modern equipment, especially destroyers for coastal patrol, helicopters for mobility and electronic detection equipment to counter infiltration. The Americans reportedly asked South Korea this week to put its army on war alert, to which the Koreans retorted that such a move would be meaningless without the requested equipment.

Americans and Koreans have disagreed about whether the 31-man assassination squad came through the American or Korean sector of the DMZ, each saying the other's sector was violated. The argument apparently has been resolved to show that the infiltrators came through both—the American sector first and then the Korean.

That the North Koreans tried to kill Park did not surprise observers here, as it was regarded as part of the pattern of rising violence that began with the ambush killing of six American and one South Korean soldier in November, 1966. In 1967, there were more than 550 penetrations and incidents perpetrated by North Korea.

Many people here were surprised, however, by the timing of the assassination attempt. Such violence was not expected until appearance of the spring foliage, which would help cover infiltration. Some authorities speculate that the North Koreans took advantage of this expectation to strike earlier.

The North Koreans have demonstrated that, despite the newly developed barrier system along the DMZ and other security precautions, well-armed men can infiltrate deep into South Korea.

The suicide squad was was spotted twice on its way toward Seoul by persons who informed the police. The police and some 6000 South Korean troops were deployed to find the band, but the North Koreans were only 500 yards from Park's official residence when they were checked at a roadblock and forced to flee after a gun battle.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
26 January 1968 P1

Officer Hints At Callup by Selling Stock

By DAVID KRASLOW
Special to The Inquirer And Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.— An officer on the staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff apparently took advantage of inside information on the reserves callup Thursday to play the stock market.

In the process he leaked a substantial hint that an announcement of the callup was imminent.

More than two hours before the stock exchanges opened in New York at 10 A. M., the officer telephoned his broker at home.

'WOULD GO DOWN'

"What would happen in the market," the officer asked, "if the reserves were called up"

"It would go down," the broker said.

"Sell!" said the officer.

"Are the reserves going to be called up?" the broker asked.

"Sell," said the officer.

The callup was announced by White House press secretary George Christian at about 11:30 A. M.

Until the announcement by Christian, a Joint Chiefs of Staff source said, the possibility of a reserves callup was part of a "packet of options" classified as "top secret."

ANALYSTS SURPRISED

Ironically, the New York Stock Exchange went up Thursday after 12 straight days of losses. Analysts were pleased, but seemingly surprised.

The market moved sidewise until news of the callup. Within 45 minutes of Christian's announcement, the Dow-Jones average had plummeted five points.

But then a counter-reaction, aided by a rumor that North Korea would release the USS Pueblo, set in. The advance continued even after the rumor was scotched, and the Dow-Jones industrial average showed a two-point gain at the close of a day of feverish trading.

Despite the slight over-all gain, 762 stock issues declined for the day while only 493 advanced.

WASHINGTON NEWS (26)
25 January 1968 P9

Little Radiation

By DON KIRKMAN
Scripps-Howard Science Writer

An Air Force party, working in 25-below-zero temperatures, was preparing today to clean up the nuclear mess created by the crash of an H-bomb-carrying B 52 bomber near Thule, Greenland.

A temporary camp with a helicopter pad has been organized on ice-bound North Star Bay, seven miles from the big air base the U.S. maintains on the Danish-owned island.

An Air Force search party has spotted pieces of the B-52's four H-bombs amid the plane's debris, a Defense Department spokesman said.

(There was some confusion as to just what the statement indicated. Pentagon officials refused to say if this meant part of a bomb itself was found, but they did say it did not refer to such related items as bomb shackles.

(A later Pentagon statement that the wreckage of the bomber together with the four H-bombs were probably 900 feet down on the bottom of the sea whose surface was covered with a layer of ice some nine feet thick, added to the confusion.)

The crash last Sunday was the 14th the Air Force has had involving atomic or hydrogen bombs in the last 10 years. Radiation levels at the crash site are not dangerous, the Defense Department said.

Radiation from "Alpha" particles could have been scattered over the ice in a couple of ways:

- The touchy TNT charges that trigger each H-bomb could have exploded when the plane hit the ice or been heated to the explosion point if the plane burned.
- The casing of one or more of the H-bombs could have split and spilled uranium or plutonium.

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NEW YORK TIMES 26 January 1968 P8

Soviet's Rebuff on Ship Linked To Fragile Ties to North Korea

By RAYMOND H. ANDERSON

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, Jan. 25—North Korea's proclaimed line of independence and its bitterness over former Soviet interference would confront Moscow with a delicate mission if it agreed to a United States request to intercede in Pyongyang to bring about a release of the Pueblo and her crew.

In the opinion of an Asian ambassador here, the North Koreans would bristle at any indication that Moscow was trying to influence their decision. This sensitivity is believed to be a major factor in the Soviet Government's quick rebuff to Washington's first appeal for intervention.

The Soviet Union has managed to restore normal relations with the North Koreans after a serious deterioration in the early nineteen-sixties. For several years, Pyongyang defied the Russians and supported the Chinese in their ideological dispute. The Koreans joined the Chinese in denouncing the Soviet leadership as "revisionist."

Relations Improved

By 1965, however, the North Korean leadership found itself under increasing Chinese pressure and, to Moscow's relief, began to move away from Peking.

Tass Sees U.S. 'Provocation'

MOSCOW, Jan. 25 (Reuters)—The Soviet press agency Tass accused the United States today of dangerous provocations by sending the intelligence ship Pueblo near the North Korean coast.

A Tass commentary linked the Pueblo incident with the loss of a United States nuclear bomb-carrying B-52 plane off Greenland and recent American intrusions into Cambodia.

Tass said that by its provocative acts the United States was creating a danger for the peace and security of the world.

Hanoi Sees 'Fitting Lesson'

Special to The New York Times

HONG KONG, Friday, Jan. 26—North Vietnam denounced the United States today over the Pueblo episode, but up to an early hour this morning Communist China had nothing to say about the North Korean seizure of the American vessel.

The Hanoi newspaper Nhan Dan said the "Korean people and their vigilant and powerful people's army have once again taught the United States warmongers a fitting lesson."

Peking's silence may reflect a cooling of relations between China and North Korea. For 10 years after the Korean war close ties existed between the Chinese and North Koreans. Pyongyang not only reflected Chinese international attitudes, but patterned its system to a considerable degree after that in China, even to the extent of imitating some aspects of the Great Leap Forward, the program of extreme rural collectivization and rapid industrialization.

A shift began to take place in 1965, possibly motivated by North Korea's disillusionment with Chinese policies and the Soviet Union's superior ability to provide economic aid. China's Cultural Revolution widened the rift. North Korea plainly disapproved of the extremes of the revolution.

Yet China and North Korea have both been supporters of the North Vietnamese and the Vietcong in South Vietnam.

The North Korean regime has appeared to take a more radical line, somewhat more akin to the Peking line, in recent months. Infiltration into the South has been intensified.

North Korea's position of neutrality and independence was put forth in a policy statement in August, 1966. The party leadership declared that, henceforth, North Korea would follow its own path. The statement deplored "imitations" of other Communist nations and attempts by the major Communist powers to dictate policy to small nations.

This independent line is similar to the stand taken in recent years by Rumania.

North Korea's relations with the Soviet Union began to deteriorate in 1959 as Pyongyang showed its sympathies for Peking in the emerging quarrel with Moscow.

In retaliation, the Soviet Union reduced exports to the North Koreans and withheld military equipment.

The low point came in September 1964, a month before the ouster of Nikita S. Khrushchev from power. The North Koreans accused the Soviet Union of economic exploitation, charging that the prices for goods delivered to North Korea were higher than world-market prices and that the prices paid for North Korean raw materials were lower than world prices.

The removal of Mr. Khrushchev opened the way to a gradual restoration of trade and normal relations.

WASHINGTON POST 26 January 1968 P17

Britain's Role

LONDON—"I believe our world policing role had to come to an end and must come to an end," Foreign Secretary George Brown said during a bitter House of Commons debate Wednesday. "There are others who should be playing a larger part in maintaining peace and stability. There are countries which should be working together for their own regional security."

He was replying to attacks by former Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Conservative leader Edward Heath. Sir Alec charged that the Labor government "ratted" on its commitments by accelerating the withdrawal of its troops from Malaysia and Singapore.

JAN 68

NEW YORK TIMES 26 January 1968 P9

EXPERT ASSESSES PUEBLO'S MISSION

By SYLVAN FOX

An authority on codes said yesterday he believed the intelligence ship Pueblo had been stationed off the coast of North Korea to gather information about radar transmissions, to collect code data and to learn about the nation's air force operations.

"The purpose of a ship like this," said David Kahn, former president of the American Cryptogram Association and the New York Cipher Society, "is to pick up as much radio and radar emissions as possible."

Mr. Kahn, a 37-year-old writer, said the Pueblo was operating less than 25 miles off the coast "for the obvious reason that weaker signals fade out, so they wanted to get in as close as they could to get as many signals as possible and as loud as possible."

The Pueblo, in Mr. Kahn's view, was seeking three major types of information during the two weeks it spent off North Korea before it was seized by that country's forces on Monday.

Would Tape Emissions

The first of its missions, he said, was to tape radar emissions from North Korean radar stations.

Radar, Mr. Kahn explained, is essentially a system of bouncing radio signals off an object to determine its location. A radar unit transmits at a given frequency and with specific wave characteristics and will only receive a signal identical with the one it emits.

Mr. Kahn said tape recordings of North Korean radar transmissions collected by a ship such as the Pueblo were analyzed "to determine the frequency on which North Korean radar is operating, how fast it sends out its pulses, what the shape of its radio waves are—are they steep, shallow, square or round — and other similar operating characteristics."

"What this enables them to do," Mr. Kahn went on, "is to fake out the North Korean radar in case it should ever be necessary for us to send aircraft over the area.

Rada Could Be Jammed

"If radar is operating on a certain frequency, we can send out a powerful signal of noise — like static — on the same frequency and jam it.

"If we know the wave shapes, we can send out a phony signal from our bombers —a signal that looks just like the one the North Korean radar sends out. Their radar will accept it as valid, and this signal will be so timed as to make it appear that our bombers are farther away than they really are. It will look to the North Koreans like we're on the 50 yard line when actually we'll be at the goal line."

A second function of a ship like the Pueblo, Mr. Kahn said in a telephone interview, is to gather coded messages.

In this mission, he explained, the Pueblo would simply monitor and record coded transmissions from North Korean radio installations. The collection of such coded material, he said, is essential in breaking the codes employed by the North Koreans.

"The more material you pick up," he said, "the easier it is to solve their codes."

Codes Get Initial Data

The breaking of such codes opens the way to intercepting messages of the utmost importance dealing with the plans and policies of a nation's military units, Mr. Kahn said.

The third function of an intelligence ship, he said, is to monitor "plain language" radio transmissions, especially by North Korean pilots in the air.

"When they listen to the chatter between pilots," he said, "they can frequently get information about squadron numbers and the names of commanders, and this enables them to build up a picture of the constitution of the North Korean Air Force."

"In addition," he said, "they can hear guys griping about equipment, so they can find out what equipment they have and what problems they have and even learn something about the morale situation."

Mr. Kahn said most of the analysis of the material gathered by a ship like the Pueblo was not done aboard the ship but by officials of the National Security Agency at Fort Meade, Md.

Not 'Very Damaging'

He said the capture of the ship would reveal to the North Koreans some information about the type of intelligence equipment the United States is employing and would provide some details about the type of information this country's intelligence officials are seeking, but would "not prove very damaging" to the over-all intelligence activities of the United States.

"Apparently much of the sensitive equipment aboard the Pueblo was destroyed, and the information they can get is not that detailed in any event," he said.

Mr. Kahn, a former member of the staff of Newsday and the European Edition of The Herald Tribune in Paris, is the author of "The Codebreakers," a history of codes and code breaking that was published last September by the Macmillan Company.

NEW YORK NEWS 26 January 1968 P4

Vatican Daily Urges Caution

Vatican City, Jan. 25 (Special)—The Vatican newspaper Osservatore Romano stressed today that a grave international situation exists because of the Pueblo incident and declared: "This is an hour for prudence and sincerity."

The Vatican daily urged nations to remember Pope Paul's appeals for peace in Asia.

"It's obvious that events in recent days are aggravating, a widening tragedy is already under way and they risk bringing about complications of an unpredictable extent," it said.

—Reynolds Packard

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NEW YORK TIMES
26 January 1968 P13

EDWARD KENNEDY UPBRAIDS SAIGON

By JOHN H. FENTON
Special to The New York Times

BOSTON, Jan. 25 — Senator Edward M. Kennedy said today that corruption, "brazenly practiced," was infesting the government of South Vietnam. He accused officials in Saigon of treating peasants in the countryside as if they were colonials.

The Massachusetts Democrat home to address thw World Affairs Council of Boston at a luncheon meeting, asserted that half of the $30-million a year that the United States had given South Vietnam for relief was finding its way into the pockets of government officials and province chiefs.

Moreover, Mr. Kennedy said, there is a growing resentment toward the United States among Vietnamese refugees. The Senator is chairman of a Senate Judiciary subcommittee on refugees. He returned recently from a second trip to Vietnam, during which he concentrated on visiting refugee camps and civilian hospitals.

"The vast majority [of refugees] — I would say over 80 per cent — claimed that they were either deposited in camps by the Americans or fled to camps in fear of American airplanes and artillery," Mr. Kennedy said. "Only a handful claimed they were driven from their homes by the Vietcong.'"

As he was about to enter the ballroom of the Sheraton Plaza Hotel, where he spoke, Mr. Kennedy told reporters he hoped President Johnson would explain to the American public and to Congress his reason for calling up reserves today in the wake of the Pueblo incident.

Wants Crew Freed

Regarding the capture of the United States Navy's intelligence ship Pueblo by North Korean forces off Wonsan on Tuesday, Mr. Kennedy said that if diplomatic maneuvers failed to free the 83 crew members and the ship "then we must use other means."

As for corruption in South Vietnam, Mr. Kennedy said in his speech that "government jobs are bought and paid for by people seeking a return on their investments."

"Police accept bribes," he said. "Officials and their wives run operations in the black market. Aid funds and hospital supplies are diverted into private pockets. Army vehicles are used for private purposes, supplies disappear and show up in the bootleg stores on the streets."

The Senator said officials of the Saigon government and the province chiefs supported by them "have the keys to the warehouses, and they keep much of the goods themselves."

Funds 'Siphoned Off'

"Each refugee is supposed to receive the equivalent of $45 for resettlement," he said. "It was estimated to me by a United States official advisory to the refugee program that 75 per cent of this amount is siphoned off before it reaches these people."

II would urge a confrontatnon between our government and South Vietnam on the entire question of corruption, inefficiency, waste f American resources and the future of 'the other war'", Mr. Kennedy said.

"They should be told in terms that will leave no doubt that if they find it impossible to attract the people of Vietnam to their own constitutional government, the American people will rightfully demand serious alterations in the nature of United States involvement."

In terms of the "other war" for a stable government, Mr. Kennedy said that at this stage "I believe the people we are fighting for do not fully have their hearts in the struggle, and I believe as well that the government that rules them does not have its heart in the cause of the people."

WASHINGTON POST 26 January 1968 P9

PRESS

1st Negro Is Named to Command Military Police Unit of D.C. Guard

For the first time in the District of Columbia Army National Guard, a Negro officer will command the 260th Military Police Group, which includes more than two-thirds of the District Guard's 1700 officers and men.

He is Lt. Col. Milton V. Seraile, of 2826 Newton st. ne. He succeeds Col. Andrew G. Conlyn, of Vienna, Va., who will take a post on the staff of Maj. Gen. Charles L. Southward, commanding general of the D.C. Army National Guard.

New commanders of the two battalions within the 260th Military Police Group also have been named.

Maj. Proctor Reed Jr. of 1508 Windham la., Silver Spring, will head the 163d Military Police Battalion and Maj. William R. Hawkins of 317 Division ave. ne., will head the 171st Military Police Battalion. Hawkins is one of several Negro officers who have held battalion command posts in the D.C. Army Guard.

The command changes will take place Feb. 1, Gen. Southward said. Col. Seraile, taking over the senior troop command post in the D.C. Army Guard, has been a Washington resident for nearly 30 years and a member of the District Army Guard since shortly after World War II. He served with the Army in both the European and Pacific Theaters during World War II. He has worked for the Main Post Office here for 22 years and recently was promoted to the post of acting assistant superintendent of delivery and collection.

Maj. Reed has been a Guardsman since 1955. Until he left the post several weeks ago to pursue graduate studies, he had been employed full time as a Guard training officer.

Maj. Hawkins has been a Guardsman since 1938. He served in Hawaii in World War II and has been employed at the Main Post Office here for 21 years.

Out of a total D.C. Army Guard force of 1720 officers and men, the Military Police Group to be headed by Seraile contains about 1200.

Promotions and new assignments of eight other officers also will be made, effective Feb. 1.

NEW YORK TIMES
26 January 1968 P2

Canadian Official Confers With Hanoi Foreign Minister

OTTAWA, Jan. 25 (Canadian Press))—A Canadian official checking North Vietnam's position on peace talks has conferred with that country's Foreign Minister, informants said today.

Ormond Dier, Canada's representative on the International Control Commission, went to Hanoi last weekend to check into a report that the Foreign Minister, Nguyen Van Trinh, had promised peace talks if United States bombing and other acts of war were halted.

Mr. Dier plans to fly from Hanoi to Saigon tomorrow. Mr. Dier has already made an interim report on his Hanoi visit. He will file a full report after his return to Saigon.

NEW YORK TIMES 26 January 1968 P3

Israel Agrees to Plan to Raise 2 Sunken Vessels in Suez Canal

By JAMES FERON
Special to The New York Times

JERUSALEM, Jan. 25—Israel agreed today to arrangements for the removal by the United Arab Republic of two sunken ships blocking 15 foreign vessels in the Suez Canal.

The work will begin Saturday, the Israelis said, and will take one to two months. It will begin with a survey of the sunken vessels and other objects blocking the southern exit of the waterway.

The removal operation will be conducted by the Egyptians, but Israeli approval was required under a "no sailing agreement" both sides have with the United Nations. [The beginning of the clearance operation on Saturday was announced yesterday by Cairo.]

According to Israeli sources, negotiations over the operation had been delayed by an apparent attempt by the Egyptians to utilize the arrangement to free sunken vessels north of the stranded ships.

Israeli Objections Outlined

Clearing the canal north of the stranded ships would not have been necessary for their removal but would have facilitated clearing the waterway for through passage.

Israeli objections to a unilateral opening of the canal were outlined during the day by Menahem Beigin, a right-wing Cabinet official. "This week the Egyptians tried and perhaps they will try again," he said, "to prepare the way to create conditions in the Suez Canal that would permit various ships to pass, but not Israeli ships."

He added: "The problem of removing ships stranded in the southern end of the canal could have been solved a long time ago. Maritime nations must know that an irreconcilable condition for opening the canal to navigation is that Israeli ships should pass through like all other ships."

Announced by Dayan

Israeli agreement to the operation was announced by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan after Lieut. Gen. Odd Bull of Norway, the chief United Nations observer in the area, had "clarified" points raised by the Israelis concerning just where the Egyptians intended to work.

Fourteen of the 15 ships are stranded in the Bitter Lakes, just south of the center of the canal. They could be freed with the removal of an Egyptian ship, whose mast is visible opposite the port of Suez.

Another sunken vessel north of the Bitter Lakes about seven miles south of Ismailia, must be removed to free the 28,000-ton tanker Observer, one of two trapped American vessels.

British, French, West German, Swedish, Bulgarian, Polish and Czechoslovak ships also are stranded. None are in any trouble, according to the Israelis, and could sail out once the waterway was cleared.

Israeli sources indicated that the original Egyptian terms over the ship removal were vague enough to permit them to work on other sunken ships blocking the canal. These include an Egyptian freighter 10 miles south of Qantara, and a small passenger ship six miles south of Port Said.

The Israelis control the eastern bank of the canal, except for a marshy area at the extreme north, and the Egyptians the western bank. A series of incidents shortly after the end of the war last June led to the formation of the "no sailing" agreement.

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EDITORIALS

NEW YORK TIMES
26 JANUARY 1968

A Measured Response

In taking the Pueblo case to the Security Council while ordering limited mobilization of Air Force reservists, the Johnson Administration has offered a prudently balanced response to sharply provocative North Korean actions.

Although there are many lingering questions concerning North Korea's humiliating capture of the U.S.S. Pueblo, there is no question that the North Koreans this week have exhibited a dangerous new mood of belligerency.

Even if the American intelligence ship had previously penetrated North Korean waters—a possibility United States officials do not categorically deny—seizure of this lightly armed vessel while engaged in what apparently has become a common and mutually tolerated enterprise was a rashly defiant act. Coupled with a guerrilla penetration of Seoul and stepped-up attacks along the demilitarized zone, it suggests a calculated challenge to American power.

One explanation for their action is that the Koreans may be trying to open a kind of second front to divert American and other allied forces and attention. Such Communist diversionary tactics were long since to have been expected as the Vietnamese conflict intensified, and it is only surprising that they have not occurred before this.

The totally inadequate protection accorded the Pueblo—not to mention the demeaning fact that this American warship could be led like a Roman slave into an enemy harbor—is an indication of how poorly prepared this nation has been to cope with such situations, even in as dangerous an area as the waters off the North Korean coast. Furthermore, as the result of the concentration of American power in Southeast Asia, American forces have been spread dangerously thin elsewhere. The initial mobilization measures announced by the White House yesterday at least represent a tardy move to match commitments with power.

Another possible explanation for Pyongyang's actions is that North Korea, perhaps prompted by the Soviet Union, is merely trying to raise the threat of a new front in order to increase pressure on Washington to move to the negotiating table. If this is the aim of Korea and of the U.S.S.R., they have chosen a dangerously imprudent course. Intensified belligerency can only lead to wider war, not to peace. The way to peace remains far more difficult than it has been—and it has been difficult enough—so long as the Pueblo and her crew are held captive. But in bringing the issue before the Security Council, the Administration is doing its part in this particular crisis to maintain equilibrium and forestall a threatened extension of the war.

BALTIMORE SUN
26 JANUARY 68

Call-Up

The dispatch of the carrier Enterprise northward in the Sea of Japan was an immediate expression of American concern over the Pueblo incident. The call-up of reserve airmen is a somewhat more calculated measure of how gravely Washington views the situation. It can be hoped that the two moves will bring the North Koreans and others to a realization that the United States intends to be ready for contingencies, and may persuade them to pause short of irrevocable provocation.

Our own purpose must continue to be to make that point, and to secure the release of the Pueblo and its men. We for our part must exercise restraint, acting only as required. We must not over-react. With our commitment in Southeast Asia already staggering, it is in our deepest interest to do everything possible, consistent with our own safety, to prevent a drift into wider, and even more dangerous, warfare.

Especially at moments of tension, the strategy of reaction closely adjusted to actual and particular conditions, not too little and not too much, is the right strategy.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
26 JANUARY 1968

Vietnam Solution

(London Observer)

A constructive end of the Vietnam war would be, not a total American abandonment, but an American-Soviet agreement to safeguard the military neutrality of that country and, perhaps, of other South-East Asian countries as well.

WASHINGTON POST
26 JANUARY 1968

Korea and Vietnam

President Johnson's call-up of 14,787 Air Force and Navy Air reservists yesterday is quite obviously aimed at demonstrating this country's resolve and increasing its capabilities in its confrontation with North Korea over the hijacking of the USS Pueblo earlier this week. The tactic is a familiar one, used by President Kennedy in the Cuban missile crisis, and earlier in a showdown over Berlin.

But another, perhaps better analogy comes quickly to mind — President Johnson's use of the Tonkin Gulf incident in August, 1964, as an opportunity to seek a sweeping congressional mandate for his Vietnam policy. Now the Pueblo affair has given the Administration a comparable justification for tapping the military reserves on a scale which would have been difficult to justify solely in terms of the highly controversial conflict in Vietnam.

It does not matter whether this element loomed large or small in the President's mind, just as it doesn't matter whether the Korean provocation can be proven to be part of a carefully orchestrated Communist campaign to strain our resources. Purpose aside, that is the plain effect; the simple fact, amply demonstrated over the last few days, is that our available military resources are spread thin, so much so that it appears that appropriate air action to rescue the Pueblo before it was captured was apparently not available. So the President had no choice but to do what he has tried so long to avoid a politically unpopular call-up of the reserves.

Now that it's done, there might be something to be said for dropping the other shoe. We have been comforting ourselves for many months with the thought that we can have it all—the war in Vietnam, the war against poverty, the butter and the guns. It is time, if not well past time, for the Nation to be told that just possibly we cannot have it all, that we may have to review and reorder our priorities, that the capacity of our enemies to expand our Asian involvement, at marginal risk to themselves, is very large.

All eyes are on the Pueblo and its 83-man crew, as Congress rings with cries for retribution by whatever means. But the Vietnam war's largest single buildup of enemy combat forces in one concentrated battle area now encircles some 5000 Marines in the remote base at Khesanh in the northwest corner of the South. A resulting Marine buildup has drawn large numbers of troops away from pacification work against Vietcong guerrillas in other parts of the country.

Meanwhile, Hanoi is feinting towards Thailand and threatening to upset the shaky stand-off in Laos. These last moves may be feints, and nothing more. The capture of the Pueblo may be sheer coincidence—or the result of some informal working arrangement between North Korea and North Vietnam with coaching from Moscow, or Peking. Whatever the case, the pressure from the enemy seems to be getting more intense. Our best hope of countering this pressure while avoiding a wider war almost certainly lies in a demonstration of our willingness to wage a wider war if we must. This calls, in turn, for striking a delicate balance and the President has wisely kept his counsel while he decides on countermoves. But he cannot count on the show of public willingness he will ultimately need unless he is willing himself to confront the public in more forthright fashion with the stark realities.

GET THOSE MEN BACK; GET THAT SHIP BACK

NEW YORK NEWS
26 JAN 1968

President Lyndon B. Johnson yesterday ordered recall to active duty of various air force and navy air reservists and indicated that some ground troops may be mobilized soon.

The move was in response to the Red North Korean grab of the U.S. spy ship Pueblo and all its men.

Asked Wednesday whether the United States Government intends to get the ship back, Secretary of State Dean Rusk answered "Yes" without qualification.

It looks, then, as if the President is moving to make good on the Rusk assurance — vigorously and without delay.

We hope so. This latest Communist insult to the U.S.A. is too impudent and too serious for the turning of the other cheek or the cool calm urged by doves of the stripe of Sens. Mansfield and Fulbright.

The great majority of Americans, we believe, will back the President in any steps he may take, no matter how drastic, to get those men and that ship back, fast.

And any timid or bumbling failure to get them back —or any bog-down in the United Nations—will be remembered by the great majority of American voters, we believe, when they go to the polls next Nov. 5.

WALL STREET JOURNAL
26 JANUARY 1968

Clark Clifford's nomination as Defense Secretary was unanimously approved by the Senate Armed Services Committee after he said he would favor a halt in bombing North Vietnam if Hanoi made even a "minimal" concession toward peace talks. Clifford said the bombing "served an extremely useful purpose" but should be stopped when the enemy agrees to some de-escalation. His confirmation by the full Senate is likely next week.

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ATLANTA CONSTITUTION 24 JANUARY 1968 (26)

Brink of War in Korea

North Korea's seizure of an Amercan Navy vessel on the high seas is in the mildest view an act of piracy and quite possibly an act of war. And it must be answered with all the severity and dispatch that such provocation demands.

We do not live in an 18th Century movie script world in which John Wayne sails into Tripoli, routs the pirates, sacks the city and rescues our men with no concern for international repercussions.

Yet the prompt and safe return of the intelligence ship Pueblo and her crew of 83 is the absolute minimum condition for which we can settle.

The United States government almost immediately made contacts through Moscow and sought to convene the Armistice Commission to achieve this goal peacefully. Our own desire to avoid war, to say nothing of our concern for world opinion, demands a peaceful initial reaction.

But we should not be beguiled by delay and the promise of promises. If diplomatic efforts do not produce prompt results, then we must conclude that the North Korean action was indeed an act of war, and we must respond in kind. This precedent--the first capture of an American Navy ship at sea in more than a century--must not be allowed to stand.

It is interesting to speculate whether this provocation is part of a deliberate effort by North Korea and perhaps China to divert our attention and resources from South Vietnam. It follows hard on the heels of a North Korean guerrilla raid on Seoul in an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung Hee.

It is beside the point at this juncture, however, whether the Pueblo incident is an isolated incident or part of a broader scheme. It is by itself a grave act which must be handled as such.

We can wait until after the return of the ship and crew to ask the commander of the Pueblo why it apparently did not resist. We wonder, with Sen. Richard Russell, why Air Force planes, which were only minutes away, did not come to the ship's aid.

But the first order of business is the return of the Pueblo and her men.

WASHINGTON NEWS 25 JANUARY (26)

Getting the Pueblo Back

THE ship and its 83-man crew — some of them wounded — must be released without further delay.

It was Monday noon Korean time that the USS Pueblo was captured by a gang-up of North Korean patrol boats and forced into Wonsan harbor. All right, the communists have had their fun, tweaked Uncle Sam's nose, made their propaganda coup. Now it's high time they gave the ship back.

There's a hint the North Koreans know they have to do so. It lies in the crude, hastily drafted "confession" attributed to Cmdr. Bucher, the Pueblo's skipper. ". . . Our parents and wives and children at home are anxiously waiting for us to return home in safe (sic). . . We only hope . . . that we will be forgiven leniently . . ."

North Korea's smug rejection of the U.S. demand to return the ship, made at a Panmunjom armistice meeting yesterday indicates, however, the Pyongyang pirates want to gamble a bit and string us along. There's no comfort, either, in word that the Russians rebuffed Washington's appeal to intervene. We still hope the Russians, recalling the crises over Berlin and Cuba, would pass on the word that when the Americans get riled, it doesn't pay to fool around too long.

But what should the Johnson Administration do? It should make an all-out effort thru all available channels to get the Pueblo back by diplomatic means — before resort to force.

Besides seeking intervention of friendly governments, neutrals and communists with whom we are on speaking terms, the U.S. should request an urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council. We should present a two-part plan: (1) North Korea must release the Pueblo immediately, and (2) the U.S. will participate in an impartial investigation of the whole episode, and let the facts come out as they will.

The most important objective is to defuse this explosive crisis by freeing the ship and its crew — and gather all the facts later, after the crisis has cooled. This means the Security Council must not just meet and palaver as it did in last year's Middle East crisis, but must quickly get results — the return of the Pueblo.

Perhaps the UN would prove incapable of getting action within a reasonable time. But at least we owe it to the world community and to our own principles as Americans to try the peaceable approach first.

But let the North Koreans mark it well: grabbing off the tiny USS Pueblo may have been easy, but the carrier task force, including the mighty USS Enterprise, has not moved into the Sea of Japan without purpose.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR 26 JANUARY 1968

North Korea again

The United States must be neither weak nor reckless in its handling of North Korea's seizure of the United States Navy's intelligence ship Pueblo. Either weakness or recklessness could do serious harm to America's worldwide role, a role which is far more important than the circumstances surrounding the Pueblo.

To be weak would encourage a whole train of undesirable consequences. It would obviously strengthen communism's ceaseless probing and pushing. It would encourage North Korea to greater boldness in its continual, aggressive movements against both South Korea and the United States (as witness the North Korean murder-team sent to kill South Korean President Park). It would have its unfavorable repercussions on North Vietnamese thinking, increasing Hanoi's belief that America can be bent if attacked long enough and hard enough.

On the other hand, recklessness would but frighten further a world already uneasy over American policies against Asian communism.

What is needed first and foremost is a straightforward clarification of the facts on the Pueblo. Was it in North Korea's legitimate (as distinct from arbitrarily claimed) territorial waters? If it was, then America should take its knocks. If it was not, then vigorous action to obtain its return immediately must be taken. As for Washington's reported request that Moscow help in the situation, this strikes us as being of doubtful wisdom and of poor diplomacy. This tends to put the United States in Russia's debt in an area where Moscow has been only too willing to see small Communist lands harass the United States. An appeal to Moscow will doubtless strike many as undignified and unworthy.

A weighty question is whether the Pueblo's seizure, like the murder attempt against President Park, is part of a coordinated Communist plan, somehow linked with events in Vietnam. Is it an attempt to divert some American attention from farther south, above all at a moment when Hanoi is widely thought to be planning its greatest offensive? Or perhaps, do these two events in Korea seek to bring pressure on Washington to weaken its conditions for talks with Hanoi and Viet Cong?

In any event North Korea has of late begun showing an unwonted boldness and aggressiveness. The murder attempt alone would justify strong American-South Korean counteraction. This fact should be borne in mind by Washington in handling the Pueblo affair. It is clear that the moment has come to make plain to North Korea that no further aggression (there has been continual provocation) across the 38th parallel will be borne.

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER 24 JANUARY 1968 (26)

Motive Vital in Pueblo Grab

The affair of the Navy ship Pueblo seized by North Koreans is one of the hazards of the vagueness of demarcation lines separating belligerents into "ours" and "yours" spaces.

The location of the Pueblo at the time of capture is of vital importance but even more important are the intentions of the Koreans.

If the capture was a deliberate act conceived as a Korean move into the Vietnam pattern, then Washington's grave concern is indeed justified.

A Pentagon estimate puts the "intelligence collecting" Pueblo in waters 15 or 16 miles off North Korea. If so, then nervousness on the part of the Korean patrols or carelessness on the part of the Pueblo crew could be factors in the incident and put it in the category of an accident.

With three or four miles of water as the error margin, either side could have made a mistake.

Neither side can afford to lose its cool over which side of an imaginary line the ships were on when the American craft was challenged.

North Korea's reaction to the urgent request for release of the ship and its 83-man crew will be the tipoff on whether the seizure was an aggravated act challenging American reprisal.

If the request is rejected, President Johnson is confronted with a fullblown crisis alarming in its gravity.

The world is a restless one in which advance information of any aggressive intentions is of the utmost importance to the security not only of the United States but of the world.

The Pueblo's mission was a legitimate one from a defense point of view. If she strayed off her course in pursuit of it, it is not a violation of such magnitude that the two countries should engage in conflict over a settlement. Reason on both sides is called for.

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NEW YORK POST 20 JANUARY (26)

McNamara and Clifford

The timing of President Johnson's announcement that Clark Clifford has been chosen to succeed Defense Secretary McNamara may have been entirely inadvertent. But it will be construed in many places as symbolic.

McNamara has long been a figure of paradox. It has been an open secret—and, in some instances, a matter of record—that he long ago began questioning the strategy of escalation and voicing skepticism about the effectiveness of our Vietnam bombing program. On many occasions observers have wryly noted that McNamara seemed disposed to emphasize the need for creative diplomacy while Secretary of State Rusk acted as mouthpiece for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Clifford is a respected, gifted attorney with a long record of distinguished public service. He has also been frequently described as one of those unofficial Acheson-ian White House advisors who have played a large role in shaping our dead-end role in Vietnam. If that is the case, his designation as McNamara's replacement is new cause for apprehension.

But public office involves responsibilities far beyond the realm of intermittent advice. What can be said with certainty is that Clifford's appointment gives finality to the departure of McNamara, and the largeness of the loss cannot be underestimated. He fought many momentous battles in behalf of the principle of civilian rule; he refused to be pushed around by the generals; he introduced dramatic innovations in the department's procedures—despite the resistance of bureaucracy—that will not be easily reversed. He set a lofty standard for his successor.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES 23 JANUARY 1968 (26)

A Diplomat In The Pentagon

Hawks and doves have joined in approval of the appointment of Clark M. Clifford to succeed Robert S. McNamara as secretary of defense. Clifford will bring to the Pentagon a wealth of experience not only in military affairs but in the field of diplomacy, foreign and domestic.

Like McNamara, Clifford has a well-deserved reputation for intellectual brilliance. McNamara was a World War II Air Force officer; Clifford was a Navy officer. McNamara left his private job at great financial sacrifice. So will Clifford. But there the comparison virtually ends.

Unlike McNamara, who came to Washington from the Ford Motor Co., Clifford's career has been in law and government affairs: Clifford has been a trusted counselor to Presidents Truman, Kennedy and Johnson. He has a large law practice.

Clifford was one of the drafters of the 1947 law unifying the armed forces under the secretary of defense. President Kennedy appointed him chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, a position he still holds. In 1966 he was President Johnson's adviser at the Manila conference and last year he and Gen. Maxwell Taylor visited a number of Southeast Asian and Pacific countries as personal emissaries of the President, discussing Vietnam.

Clifford was one of the persons McNamara recommended to Mr. Johnson as qualified for the defense post.

No two men approach the same job the same way and Clifford undoubtedly will be a striking change from McNamara. But each may prove to have been just the right man for the job at the time.

McNamara served longer than any other person in the job (seven years). He brought the efficiencies of private industry and he put a firm civilian hand on the military brass.

Clifford will inherit the more streamlined establishment created by McNamara and it is to be hoped that he will prove as tough in asserting civilian control over the generals and admirals as McNamara did.

Clifford's own particular contribution, however, may be in helping to unify Washington behind a course for peace. Although he has a reputation for being more hawkish than McNamara, his appointment was praised by a thoroughgoing dove, Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.).

Fulbright said that he felt that Clifford will at least listen to critics of the President's policy. And since the President leans on Clifford for advice, a better understanding of the various positions might result.

On the other hand, Clifford's appointment means that the President will feel that he has greater personal control over the office; Mr. Johnson inherited McNamara from President Kennedy. Clifford is his own personal choice.

With a new defense chief some of the nation's priorities may be subtly adjusted. We hope the appointment of Clifford, a Johnson adviser on diplomacy as well as defense, will mean a stronger emphasis on the political and diplomatic aspects of the Vietnam problem rather than the purely military. Meanwhile it is salutary that the appointment has been generally applauded.

BALTIMORE NEWS AMERICAN

23 JANUARY 1968 (26)

McNamara's Successor

IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE a man more qualified than Clark M. Clifford to succeed Robert S. McNamara as Secretary of Defense. Both President Johnson and the nation are fortunate a man of such calibre and experience has agreed to accept designation for one of the three toughest jobs in Washington.

In a sense, Mr. Clifford is a predecessor of Mr. McNamara as well as his successor. It was he who drafted the act calling for unification of the armed services and establishing the office of Secretary of Defense in 1947 under President Truman. Thus the effective overhall of the military establishment achieved by Mr. McNamara represents a goal first envisioned by the secretary-designate and his fellow planners a generation ago.

This was typical of the effective visionary astuteness provided by Mr. Clifford for more than 20 years either as an aide or consultant to Democratic presidents—all his close personal friends. In this role of key strategy advisor, the wealthy attorney has become one of the nation's most respected experts not only on military matters but in foreign affairs, economics, intelligence operations and political tactics.

Clark Clifford's unmatched experience, his proven know-how, and above all his exceptional tact in solving delicate problems in the mazes of official Washington meet the tremendous demands of his impending assignment. Yet his chief asset is something else. Unlike his brilliant but sometimes wavering predecessor, he is as firm a supporter of Mr. Johnson's Vietnam policies as is Secretary of State Dean Rusk. Once again the nation's three top leaders will be working in the kind of total cooperation and understanding vital for bringing the war to its earliest possible conclusion.

ST. PETERSBURG TIMES 20 JANUARY 1968 (26)

The New Defense Secretary

President Johnson's selection of Clark Clifford to be the new secretary of defense had not been widely forecast; yet it should come as no real surprise.

Clifford not only is one of the President's closest friends, confidants, and advisers, as he was to Presidents Kennedy and Truman, he is also one of the most knowledgeable men in Washington in the inner workings of government at all levels.

HIS DIPLOMACY, his ability to work with the members of Congress, and an innate toughness that has kept him at or near the top of the political jungle in Washington for two decades make him quite possibly the best choice that could have been made to follow Robert McNamara in the nation's toughest job next to the presidency itself.

Clifford has not held a full-time government job since he served as special counsel to President Truman from 1946 to 1950. But while practicing law in Washington since, he has remained close to the sources of political power — particularly in the Senate during the Eisenhower years, when Lyndon Johnson was majority leader.

President Kennedy, after his election in 1960, called on Clifford to represent him with the Eisenhower Administration in the transfer of power.

HE HAS SERVED President Johnson not only as a personal adviser, but in such public ways as chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and emissary, with Gen. Maxwell Taylor, on a visit to our Far East Vietnam allies last year.

Clifford will embark on his new assignment with the full confidence of the President and with many friends and few enemies in Congress.

These are impressive assets, which will serve him well in maintaining the civilian control that McNamara has succeeded in establishing over the vast military establishment in the Pentagon.

The country will wish him well.

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NEW YORK POST 25 JANUARY 1968 (26)

More Dangerous Hours

As the anxious hours creep by, alarmed Americans everywhere exchange apprehensive questions about the new crisis in Asia: North Korea's seizure of a seaborne U-2 called the U.S.S. Pueblo and her crew.

The universal question is whether what Secretary of State Rusk has tentatively termed "an act of war" will actually erupt into another Asian conflict of deadly dimensions. The sense of national alarm is becoming comparable to that stirred by the Cuban missile crisis.

But it is crucial to discern the differences. The Soviets' reckless Cuban adventure plainly demanded an immediate, unflinching countermove. The Pueblo incident demands the utmost care and caution and the exhaustive use of every diplomatic alternative to military means. Capt. Stephen Decatur—who once surrendered a ship—is remembered for saying: "Our country, right or wrong." It still remains a mystery whether this nation is supremely right in the Pueblo crisis.

So far, the Administration appears to appreciate the uncertainties. Responsible Congressional leaders such as Senate Majority Leader Mansfield (D-Mont.) have wisely counseled sober consideration and restraint. There is no discernible national response to the outcries for massive retaliation from Sens. Thurmond (R-S.C.) or Dodd (D-Conn.). Although it has moved the nuclear carrier Enterprise and other warships into position off Wonsan Bay, Washington seems determined to seek a diplomatic solution.

To secure any national assent in the use of means beyond vigorous diplomacy to recover the Pueblo and her officers and men, the Johnson Administration must first answer scores of unanswered questions—about the ship's mission, about her actual location at the time of the boarding, about the absence of protection for the vessel, about the obvious failure to interdict the attack.

One of the most basic questions is where the Pueblo was when she was intercepted by the North Korean patrol boats. The Pentagon's first official announcement of the seizure said the ship's reported position was "approximately 25 miles from the mainland of North Korea."

But according to Rear Adm. John V. Smith in Panmunjom, the Pueblo was only 16 nautical miles off the coast. Nautical miles are longer than land miles, but the two distance figures cannot be reconciled. The North Koreans claim territorial waters stretching out 12 miles from the coast. Was the Pueblo really on the "high seas"? Or did she wander—or steer—closer? The point is hardly minor; if Soviet spy ships—the familiar counterparts of the Pueblo—were to approach the coast of Maine, bristling with electronic gear and flaunting their purpose, what would Washington's reaction be?

Finally, who authorized the Pueblo's hazardous journey—especially at a moment when peace talks in Vietnam were still ostensibly being pursued?

* * *

Sen. Fulbright (D-Ark.), chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, remarked that "the fact we are deeply committed in Vietnam undoubtedly contributes to all other countries feeling more free than normal from serious retaliation." That is certainly plausible. It remains to be demonstrated that the Pueblo seizure is a calculated Communist diversion. But even if the U. S. were not committed in Vietnam, even if we were prepared to retaliate heavily, Washington has yet to furnish any persuasive justification for so fateful an act. Only the most searching, patient diplomacy—and a full airing of the facts—is justified now.

KANSAS CITY STAR 20 JAN (26)

THINKING THE UNTHINKABLE ABOUT ATOMIC WAR

DOOMSDAY is never any further away than the world's first exchange of nuclear warheads between two countries committed to waging war with each other. Questions of limiting an atomic clash, of confining missile and bomb strikes to certain targets would become all but academic in such catastrophic circumstances. But such grim questions have been posed, and they will continue to come up as they have once more this week.

The Washington Post kicked off the latest discussion. The Post asserted that both the United States and the Soviet Union now place cities, rather than military installations, at the top of their nuclear targeting list. But the Pentagon immediately denied that any such fundamental shift of strategy had occurred, adding that the U. S. strategic options for nuclear war have not changed since 1962.

Thus the military high command seems to be standing by the official view expressed half a dozen years ago that in time of war the U. S. might be able to knock out all of Russia's strategic missiles and thereby limit the amount of damage that could be inflicted on this country.

The contrary judgment, which the Pentagon has publicly rebuffed, is that American long-range ballistic missiles are not accurate enough to score direct hits on concealed, underground Soviet missile silos. According to this appraisal, the Russians find themselves similarly restricted. If these limitations existed—as the Washington Post has maintained—the two powers would use their nuclear arsenals to hold each other's cities hostage.

Both positions—that adhered to by the Pentagon and the new contention of the Washington Post—are based on theories. The absolute facts could not possibly be known short of a nuclear war. The world can only hold its breath and hope that it never obtains a clear-cut determination by way of a 20th century doomsday.

WALL STREET JOURNAL 26 JAN 68

Washington Wire

CLIFFORD FACES a tough time defending McNamara's budgeting. Lawmakers complain that heavy shifting of funds to Vietnam war pinches arms programs they have voted to push. A Senate committee will surely zero in on delay in deployment of the Minuteman III missile. A hold-down on antimissile spending will irk Congress.

* * *

HANOI INFLAMES Sihanouk by recruiting troops inside Cambodia.

That little-known violation of Cambodian neutrality is one of the sharpest prods turning Sihanouk against the Reds. North Vietnam, Vietcong agents recruit among Cambodia's sizable Vietnamese minority; some reports claim they net 4,000 monthly. The Reds also collect money and supplies from Vietnamese traders in Cambodia's capital.

U.S. officials figure Sihanouk is really turning more cooperative, despite his charges of American border violations. The Cambodian chief told U.S. emissary Bowles he expected Hanoi to crowd him some day but not so soon. Sihanouk made clear he finds the American presence helpful in maintaining Cambodian independence.

Sihanouk agrees to study State Department intelligence reports of alleged Communist border violations—something he previously rejected.

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS 25 JANUARY 1968 (26)

Hot plane in hot water

The long-dormant controversy over the F-111, the radical sweep-wing plane designed for both Air Force and Navy use, is heating up again. The decision to continue or cancel the Navy version of the plane may be the first big imbroglio facing the incoming Sec. of Defense, Clark Clifford.

The Air Force version is now in production at the Fort Worth plant of General Dynamics Corp., and the Air Force is apparently satisfied it will do everything expected of it. But rumbles from the Navy are increasing as the time draws near for carrier testing. The F-111B (the Navy version) is heavier than anticipated, and Navy brass is not convinced it will carry out the Navy's tasks as well as it will serve the different missions prescribed by the Air Force. Weight is a crucial factor in Navy carrier operations.

The F-111 was designed for versatility. It can be a fighter or a bomber or a reconaissance plane. It spreads its wings for short takeoffs and landings, folds them back for flight at up to two and a half times the speed of sound. It has long range, and can be equipped with anything from nuclear bombs to fast-firing cannon. One F-111, at least theoretically, could take the place of a fleet of fighters and bombers of the limited World War II variety.

In fact the main idea behind the F-111 was to make it a multipurpose aircraft. As planes get more sophisticated in concept (and this one marks a big forward step in technology) the cost goes up sharply. Defense Sec. McNamara pushed for the F-111 partly on the argument that its "commonality" in use by both services would save the taxpayers an estimated $1 billion. If the Navy now goes out to develop different planes for its own special purposes, the added bill could run high.

These are complex matters that not only strain the limits of aircraft technology, but also involve top-secret electronics and weaponry. The average citizen is in no position to judge whether he is getting a square deal or not; he must depend on the experts in the aircraft industry, the generals and admirals, and the committeemen in Congress who share in shaping the Defense Department decisions.

Both interservice rivalry and politics have intruded in the F-111 program from its start as the FTX. The original contract award was the subject of congressional hearings, and sniping has continued intermittently ever since. The stakes are high, for a plane contract these days may run into the billions.

Whatever the final decision may be, we hope it rests on the solid ground of technology and experience, and is made only after all possible tests are complete. Nothing less will ultimately convince the taxpayer that he is getting his money's worth, and not being taken for a ride by a coalition of military brass, aircraft manufacturers and congressmen.

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FEATURES COLUMNISTS

NEW YORK TIMES - 26 JANUARY 1968

Excerpts From Panmunjom Exchange

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25—Following are excerpts from an exchange yesterday between Rear Adm. John V. Smith and Maj. Gen. Pak Chung Kook, North Korean delegate to the Military Armistice Commission in Panmunjon, Korea, regarding the seizure of the Pueblo.

By Admiral Smith

I now have one more subject to raise which is also of an extremely serious nature. This concerns the criminal boarding and seizure of the U.S. naval vessel Pueblo in international waters on 23 January 1968 at approximately 1330 local time by North Korean forces.

This matter is appropriate for discussion because it is part of new pattern of North Korea belligerence and aggressive actions which dangerously increase tensions in this area. If they are persisted in, they will have most serious consequences to maintenance of armistice and to preservation of peace in Korea. These hostile acts cannot be perpetrated with impunity.

It is important that you understand difference between international and territorial waters and rights accorded ships of all nations, especially public vessels, in international waters.

You must surely realize that any public vessel has complete immunity from jurisdiction of any state other than the flag state. This immunity to interference has long been recognized in customary international law, and specifically in the convention on high seas.

The Pueblo was in international waters at the time of the incident, its exact location being latitude 39 degrees 25 mineus North, longitude 127 degrees 54 minutes East. It was over 16 nautical miles from land. Its location was exact, as the ship was equipped with modern navigational equipment.

Apology Demanded

In the interest of comlying with the laws and customs of nations, it is necessary that your regime do the following:

1. Return the vessel and crew intact, immediately.

2. Apologize to the United States Government for this illegal action.

You are also advised that the United States reserves the right to ask for compensation under international law.

Further, I have been requested by the United States Government to say the following directly to you.

Events of the last year, and especially the last few days, have put a new complexion on the situation in Korea. The North Korean regime has embarked on a campaign of provocation, sabotage and assassination in violation of the armistice agreement and international law.

The Republic of Korea and the United States threaten no one. If the North Korean regime persists in this campaign, which can only endanger the peace of this area, the responsibility for the consequences will rest with the North Korean regime.

By General Pak

At the 230th meeting of this commission held four days ago, I again registered a strong protest with your side against having infiltrated into our coastal waters a number of armed spy boats, espionage bandits together with a group of South Korean fishing boats, and repeatedly demanded that you immediately stop such criminal acts.

However, between the 0700 and 1730 hours, Jan. 21, the day after the 260th meeting of this commission, your side again dispatched armed spy boats together with 100-odd South Korean fishing boats into our coastal waters in the vicinity of 38 degrees 40 minutes North, 128 degrees 29 minutes East and on Jan. 22 dispatched armed spy boats together with 100-odd South Korean fishing boats into our coastal waters in the eastern sea in the vicinity of 38 degrees 42 minutes North, 128 degrees 32 minutes East to commit provocative acts.

On Jan. 23, too, your side again dispatched armed spy boats together with 100-odd South Korean fishing boats into our coastal waters of the eastern sea in the vicinity of 38 degrees 41 minutes North, 128 degrees 23 minutes East, and today, too, is infiltrating the armed spy boats together with 100-odd South Korean fishing boats in our coastal waters of the eastern sea.

Your side has continuously dispatched naval vessels in our coastal waters to conduct naval bombardment upon our coastal area and used even the South Korean fisherman as a shield for its aggressive acts, as you turned out the South Korean youths as bullet shields to the battlefield in Vietnam.

'Crude Aggressive Act'

In the most overt and serious aggressive act of infiltrating an armed spy ship of the United States imperialist aggressive army into our coastal waters on Jan. 23, that is, around 1215 hours on Jan. 23, your side committed a crude aggressive act of illegally infiltrating an armed spy ship of the United States imperialist aggressive navy

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

NEW YORK TIMES - 26 JANUARY 1968

Call-Up: A First Step

Mobilization of Reserve Units Viewed As Move Toward Greater Readiness

By HANSON W. BALDWIN

The mobilization of 14,787 reservists yesterday is a first step toward increasing the readiness and effectiveness of the United States armed forces around the world. Military sources indicated that the Joint Chiefs of Staff had repeatedly recommended limited mobilization of the Reserves ever since our first commitment of ground combat units to Vietnam in the Spring of 1965.

News Analysis

The Administration, however, chose to expand the armed forces by increased draft calls and enlistments, by forming new units, and by transferring personnel from all over the world to Vietnam.

Inventories of weapons, ammunition and equipment in Europe, Korea and the United States were drawn down to support our forces in Vietnam.

The experience level of the armed forces was materially reduced by massive and continuous personnel turnovers, incident to the one-year rotation policy in Vietnam and the two-year draft.

A production policy, sponsored by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, tailored to the concept that United States factories would turn out whatever was needed to supply the needs of the Vietnam war and our other forces overseas but not much more than that, was to be avoided, and, after munition and equipment, such as those that followed World War II and the Korean war, was tobe avoided, and,after the war ended, the depleted inventories around the world were to be replaced as munitions factories gradually reduced their production and thus eased the transition from war to peace.

Risks Were Involved

These policies, though attractive politically and economically, involved military risks. Military and Congressional leaders have repeatedly warned that the concentration of half a million men in Vietnam had depleted United States ready strength elsewhere; many had indicated that we were "spread thin," and that if any other major incident occurred elsewhere in the world or if many additional troops were required for Vietnam mobilization would be mandatory.

Officers in Washington believe that the seizure of the Pueblo by the North Koreans, the other aggressive actions of the North Koreans and the massive re-enforcements the North Vietnamese have sent to the Khesanh area along the demilitarized zone in Vietnam were the catalysts that led to the President's reaction.

The call-up of units of the Air National Guard, Air Reserve, and the Naval air arm is viewed not only as a political and psychological reaction to the Pueblo seizure, but also as an attempt to strengthen what is probably the weakest and most strained element of the nation's military strength —its tactical air power.

The weakness, in places like Korea and Japan, of United States tactical air strength was underscored by the Pueblo incident. Most of the Tactical Air Command's available squadrons—except a few engaged in training activities — have already been concentrated in Vietnam; four squadrons have been withdrawn from Europe, and the Navy's carrier air wings in the Mediterranean and Atlantic have been understrength in planes and pilots.

One informed officer said yesterday that, without doubt, the most serious worldwide shortage was aircraft and helicopters, and the pilots to man them. He also said that "nobody's ammunition reserve — with the exception of Vietnam — was back to the pre-Vietnam level," and he predicted that if any "continuous shooting" started in Korea or elsewhere various shortages would soon develop.

The units ordered to active duty yesterday will add 372 aircraft and almost 14,800 men to the regular forces. The Air National Guard units, which for the bulk of the call-up, are in a fairly high state of readiness, even though their North American F-100 fighters, and their McDonnell RF-101 reconnaissance planes are old and are no match for Soviet Migs. The six Naval Reserve squadrons with 72 aircraft are equipped with Ling-Temco-Vought F-8 fighters and with Douglas A-4B attack planes. Both are old; the Douglas model is the second oldest of the A-4 line. The six Air Reserve squadrons fly transport and rescue planes — all of them old but still serviceable.

Two Purposes Seen

This very modest increment to United States air strength may serve two military purposes, officers believe; the Reserve squadrons and personnel may free regular units in this country for service overseas, and they will provide an initial augmenting of the number of aircraft available, a particularly important element in a conventional and nonatomic war where numbers of aircraft are far more important than in a nuclear war.

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PANMUNJOM...CONT'D

equipped with various weapons and all kinds of equipment necessary for espionage activities into our coastal waters off Wonsan in the vicinity of 39 degrees 17 minutes North, 127 degrees 46 minutes East.

The armed spy ship of the United States imperialist aggressive navy intruded further east into our coastal waters and committed intolerable provocations against our side. Our naval vessels, which were carrying out their routine patrol duty in our coastal waters, returned the fire upon the piratical group that intruded deep into our coastal waters and insolently made resistance, thus killing and wounding several soldiers of the United States imperialist aggressive army, capturing 80-odd of them alive.

Thus, now in our hands are the armed spy ship, 1,000-odd tons of the United States imperialist aggressive navy which your side deliberately dispatched into our coastal waters for reconnaissance upon our side and scores of small arms, including anti-aircraft machine guns and other large quantities of weapons and equipment necessary for espionage purposes, including tens of thousands of ammunition of various kinds and hand grenades equipped on the ship.

Notwithstanding that you have committed overt aggressive acts, you have indulged in making charges in an attempt to cover up the truth of your piratical act by distorting the facts as if your armed ship had been in international waters.

Charge Is 'Preposterous'

Your preposterous charge only graphically reveals the barbarous and shameless nature of the United States imperialist aggressors.

The recent vicious hostile act by your side is a link in the chain of the United States imperialist aggressive policy for provoking a new war of aggression after further aggravating tension in Korea. It is the most overt aggressive act, an open challenge to the Korean people.

I strongly demand you to frankly admit the violations, provocations and aggressive acts committed by your side in the DM7 and in our coastal waters, to apologize to our side for them, to severely punish as required by the armistice agreement the mad culprits who organized and commanded the incidents and all the criminals involved in them.

Reply by Admiral Smith

Your last wild statement and distorted version of your piracy off Wonsan were obviously intended to divert attention from your regime's attempt to assassinate the President of the Republic of Korea and your actual capture of a United States naval vessel in international waters. I will investigate any reasonable allegations but I will not be diverted by your tactic. I have nothing further.

Reply By General Pak

Don't wag your tongue at random at this table after proof of a most overt and vicious provocation and the aggressive acts committed by your side in the DMZ and in our coastal waters has been exposed to the whole world.

If your side has any slightest intention to preserve the Korean armistice, don't ride roughshod but draw due lessons from . . . the doom of a large armed spy ship which was captured recently by our side while sneaking into our coastal waters. When the real state of your serious crime has been exposed to the world, all you have to do is to admit military provocations and aggressive acts committed by your side, apologize for them, and assure this table that you will not recommit such criminal acts.

CALL-UP ... CONT'D

Yesterday's orders affected about one-seventh of the Air National Guard's total strength — about 1,557 additional aircraft and 74,418 men remain in reserve status. The Naval Air Reserve could provide an additional 194 squadrons; only six have been called up. The Air Reserve still has 312 planes. Most of these units however, have old equipment and many of them would require considerable refresher training.

Ground elements of the National Guard and the Reserve are not nearly as ready as the air components. These units are now in the midst of another of the periodic reorganizations that have occurred and recurred in the last six years, and only a few brigades are adequately trained and equipped for deployment without a long period of training on active duty.

The Fourth Marine Division, a reserve unit, is probably the best equipped and most ready of all reserve ground units; it maintains a mobilization cadre on active duty at Camp Pendleton in California. It is short of some items of equipment, and its air and helicopter support are deficient, but it could be ready for action quickly.

Of the regular active units, the Army's 82d Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N. C., has a higher state of readiness than any other unit in this country. The Second Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, N. C., "can go fight," as one officer put it, but "they're down"; they have served as a kind of "depot division" for Vietnam.

Two armored divisions in Texas and the Fifth Infantry Division (Mechanized) are in much the same category. Almost two regiments of the Fifth Marine Division at Camp Pendleton are in pretty good shape, and there are smaller units of various types around the country that could be brought up to strength fairly quickly.

The experience level—particularly in officers and noncoms—and the logistical and support the Seventh Army in Germany have dropped appreciably since the start of the Vietnam fighting. In Korea, the Second and Seventh Infantry Divisions are short of helicopters, some signal equipment and other items.

NEW YORK TIMES - 26 JANUARY 1968

Text of Order on Call-up

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25—Following is the text of President Johnson's executive order calling up Air Reserve units to active duty. The locations of the units have been added in brackets.

EXECUTIVE ORDER
No. 11392

Ordering Certain Units of the Ready Reserve of the Naval Reserve, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard of the United States to Active Duty.

By virtue of the authority vested in me by Paragraph (E) of Title 1 of the Department of Defense Appropriation Act, 1967 (80 Stat. 981), and as President of the United States, I hereby order the following units of the Ready Reserve of the Naval Reserve, the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard of the United States to active duty for a period of not to exceed 24 months:

(1) 113th Tactical Fighter Wing, Air National Guard of the United States. [Washington, D.C.]
(2) 113th Tactical Fighter Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Washington, D.C.]
(3) 177th Tactical Fighter Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Atlantic City, N. J.]
(4) 107th Tactical Fighter Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Niagara Falls, N.Y.]
(5) 121st Tactical Fighter Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Lockbourne, Ohio.]
(6) 140th Tactical Fighter Wing, Air National Guard of the United States. [Denver, Colo.]
(7) 140th Tactical Fighter Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Denver, Colo.]
(8) 184th Tactical Fighter Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Wichita, Kan.]
(9) 185th Tactical Fighter Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Sioux City, Iowa.]
(10) 150th Tactical Fighter Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Albuquerque, N.M.]
(11) 123d Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Air National Guard of the United States. [Louisville, Ky.]
(12) 123d Tactical Reconnaissance Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Louisville, Ky.]
(13) 189th Tactical Reconnaissance Group, Air National Guard of the United States [Little Rock, Ark.]
(14) 152d Tactical Reconnaissance Group, Air National Guard of the United States. [Reno, Nev.]
(15) 445th Military Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve. [Dobbins Air Force Base, Marietta, Ga.]
(16) 918th Military Airlift Group, Air Force Reserve. [Dobbins Air Force Base, Marietta, Ga.]
(17) 904th Military Airlift Group, Air Force Reserve. [Stewart Air Force Base, Newburgh, N. Y.]
(18) 305th Air Reserve Rescue Squadron, Air Force Reserve. [Selfridge Air Force Base, Mount Clemens, Mich.]
(19) 349th Military Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve. [Hamilton Air Force Base, San Rafael, Calif.]
(20) 938th Military Airlift Group, Air Force Reserve. (Hamilton Air Force Base, San Rafael, Calif.]
(21) 921st Military Airlift Group, Air Force Reserve. [Kelly Air Force Base, San Antonio, Tex.]
(22) 941st Military Airlift Group, Air Force Reserve. [McChord Air Force Base, Tacoma, Wash.]
(23) Attack Squadron VA 776, Naval Reserve. [Los Alamito, Calif.]
(24) Attack Squadron VA 831, Naval Reserve. [New York City.]
(25) Attack Squadron VA 873, Naval Reserve. [Alameda, Calif.]
(26) Fighter Squadron VF 661, Naval Reserve. [Washington, D. C.]
(27) Fighter Squadron VF 703, Naval Reserve. [Dallas, Tex.]
(28) Fighter Squadron VF 931, Naval Reserve. [Willow Grove, Pa.]

NEWSWEEK - 29 JANUARY 1968 (26)

COOLING THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

The Atomic Energy Commission is closing two more plutonium reactors in February—one at Hanford near Richland, Wash., and the other on the Savannah River near Aiken, S.C. The shutdowns continue a trend caused by the leveling-off of the U.S. nuclear-bomb stockpile and the reduction in the size of the bombs themselves. The big 25-megaton warheads have been dismantled in favor of 10-megaton and 1-megaton sizes, and even smaller bombs are on the way . . . U.S. defense officials have taken another step to cool off the nuclear arms race. They let word get out that the advanced Minuteman-3 ICBM, which will carry multiple warheads, will be delayed in its initial operational capability or de-

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NEW YORK TIMES - 26 JANUARY 1968

Force at Khesanh

The largest battle of the war in Vietnam appeared to be impending yesterday around Khesanh and near the demilitarized zone.

The North Vietnamese have apparently concentrated the biggest single force they have yet assembled around the western end of the 17th Parallel and in nearby Laos. Enemy artillery and mortar positions have been prepared within range of United States Marine positions, and heavy shelling has begun. It seems clear that Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, the North Vietnamese Defense Minister, is trying to repeat his 1954 victory against the French at Dienbienphu in the hope of forcing negotiations on Hanoi's terms.

The exact strength of the enemy reinforcements massing near Khesanh and the nearby Marine position known as the Rockpile, near the western end of the demilitarized zone, is not known, but yesterday Marine spokesmen estimated that the enemy had concentrated 35,000 men within 10 to 20 miles of Khesanh.

Before the build-up, the main force—organized and uniformed enemy units—in the five northern provinces totaled about 50 maneuver battalions, or 33,000 men, including enemy units astride the buffer zone. They are supported in the whole region—known as the I Corps area—by 17,000 to 18,000 guerrillas.

There were elements of North Vietnam's Divisions 324B and 325C near the zone, plus seven or eight separate battalions, their strength estimated at 17,000 men.

This force has been reinforced, apparently by the 304th Division and by several regiments of the 341st Division, to a total of 40,000 or 45,000 men.

These troops are supported by 100 or 150 guns, including 100-mm., 122-mm., 130-mm. and 152-mm. pieces, and by many mortars. These weapons, with many alternate firing positions, are normally well dug in and expertly camouflaged. Some are in the demilitarized zone north of the 17th Parallel and in Laos.

At least one surface-to-air-missile site has been prepared just north of the zone, and three or four launchers are intermittently moved into it. Anti-aircraft fire is also provided by about five radar-controlled 85-mm. guns in the area of the zone, and by many light automatic guns, ranging in size from 12.7-mm. to 57-mm.

United States forces have progressively shifted their strength northward to meet the heavy enemy concentrations. Recently, the First Marine Division, operating in an area reaching well south of Danang, shifted its lines northward to take over some of the area of the Third Marine Division.

About 6,000 South Korean marines, in a brigade of four battalions, shifted their area of responsibility northward from Chulai to relieve the First Marine Division.

In turn, the Third Marine Division, responsible for the defense of the demiliterized zone, shifted nearly all of its strength into Quangtri Province, adjacent to the zone, with supporting elements in Quangnam, just south of Quangtri.

A brigade of the Army's First Cavalry Division (Airmobile) has been moved northward to Phubai as a general reserve.

Thus in all of the I Corps area, there are 137,000 allied troops, including 34 battalions of the South Vietnamese Army plus militia units with 58,000 men, and other military forces: 21 United States Marine battalions, including 2 aboard ships of the Seventh Fleet; 15 or more United States Army battalions, and a brigade of 4 battalions of Korean marines.

Of this total, about 10 United States Marine battalions, plus many supporting units—totaling 20,000 marines—are in Quangtri Province.

The headquarters of the 26th Marine Regiment is dug in near Khesanh, a western flank position of the demilitarized zone's defenses, 7 miles from the Laotian border and 18 miles south of the zone.

The Marines hold three key hills around Khesanh — 881 North, 881 South and 861, designated according to their heights in meters. The hills command the valley approach from Laos along Route 9.

At least 5,000 to 6,000 marines man positions in the Khesanh area. Others, along with the South Vietnamese First Division, hold positions extending along Route 9 and to the North of it, east and west of Route 1 and along Route 561 between Camlo and Conthien. The positions extend from the sea at the Cua Viet to Giolinh, Dongha, Conthien and Camlo, and then to Khesanh, the Rockpile, Camp Carroll and Langvei, the site of an allied camp two miles from the Laotian border.

The headquarters of the Third Marine Division are at Dongha, where officers control the heavy fires that support the forward Marine posts. Dongha is within artillery range of enemy guns north of the 17th Parallel, so an alternate landing strip and supply point have been built near Quangtri to the south along Highway 1.

The fire support available to the Third Marine Division probably represents the heaviest concentration of artillery and air support of the war in Vietnam. In addition to the marines' divisional artillery and tank guns, ranging upward from 90-mm., the Third Marine Division is supported by 3,000 Army men, most of them artillerymen organized in the 108th Artillery Group. Most of the strength of this group supports the area of the demilitarized zone.

This group operates two battalions plus two extra batteries of 175-mm. guns, totaling 32 guns; one battery of four 8-inch howitzers; two battalions of 155-mm. howitzers with 36 guns; six battalions of 105-mm. howitzers with 108 guns; two batteries of "Quad 50's," or tracked vehicles carrying four .50-calibre machine guns apiece, and four batteries of "Dusters," tracked vehicles with twin 40-mm. guns.

In all, some 200 major guns are firing, and there is naval support from 5-inch .38-caliber, 5-inch .54-caliber and 8-inch guns.

In addition most planes of the First Marine Air Wing, based around Danang, are available for support.

The wing numbers almost 16,000 men and is the largest in the Marine Corps. It flies many different types of aircraft, including jet fighter-bombers and helicopters, transports and cargo planes, spotter aircraft and utility planes.

This is a formidable force, but the enemy has the advantages of numbers, and of sanctuaries in Laos and in North Vietnam. And in this area, unlike any other in South Vietnam, he can be supported by artillery across the frontier or north of the 17th Parallel.

NEW YORK TIMES - 26 JANUARY 1968

Washington: An Air of Crisis

By JAMES RESTON

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25—There is an air of crisis in the capital these days. The talk is of a harder war and maybe even of more war over the capture of the U.S.S. Pueblo in North Korea, but the anxious talk and the big headlines could easily be misleading.

It is not the strategic picture in Asia that is changing but the Administration itself. On the basis of the intelligence reports so far, there is no evidence that the Communists are trying to open up a "second front" in Korea. On the basis of reliable reports from knowledgeable officials, there is no basic change in the Government's plans for continuing the war as before.

Reserves' Call-Up

The call-up of 14,600 Air Reserves and Naval and Air Support units is not necessary to deal with the Pueblo incident. The call-up may be useful in supporting our diplomatic efforts to get the ship and its 83-man crew released, but the Administration has been under pressure to call these reserves for Vietnam, and that is where they are likely to be used in the end.

Nevertheless, the optimism of the pre-Christmas period is now giving way to uneasiness for a variety of reasons. The enemy is obviously building up for a major assault on the U.S. Marine base at Khesanh near the demilitarized zone, and apparently has managed to bring up some large artillery guns for the purpose. The expectation here is that this may produce the biggest battle of the war in about a week, right after the Tet truce.

In addition, the crash of an Air Force plane in Greenland with four H-bombs aboard, the pressure on the dollar and the U.S. balance of payments abroad, the announcement that the British are pulling out of Malaysia and the Persian Gulf—all these in recent days have made people aware of the complexity and danger of America's military and economic problems across the globe.

None of these events has changed anything fundamentally, but they have made an edgy capital conscious of the possibilities of change. What if the Communists were bringing up new and longer-range weapons into the battle? What if they did create new diversionary guerrilla fronts along the vast Communist borderland from North Korea, through Laos, and Afghanistan to the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean?

It is the fear of the unknown, of more attacks and new longer-range weapons, rather than actual evidence of new enemy plans on other fronts that contributes to the uncertainty of the moment.

Also the Johnson Adminstration is itself being transformed. In the last few weeks, the President has received the resignations of Secretary of Defense McNamara, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare John Gardner, and the heads of the Bureau of the Budget, Charles L. Schultze, and the Council of Economic Advisers, Gardner Ackley. There are persistent rumors that these will be followed before long by Secretary of the Treasury Henry H. Fowler, and the Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall.

The loss of McNamara, Gardner and Schultze, all wide-minded, objective and highly competent men, has not done anything to reassure the Capital. These are all non-political officials, who have had their doubts about the Administration's priorities or lack thereof, and while they have given up their key jobs quietly, the Capital cannot quite believe that their stated reasons for leaving told the whole story.

Anyway, whatever the reasons, they are not going because the Administration is on the verge of ominous new policies they do not like. The tone of the Administration is clearly more political than it was just a few weeks ago, and being more political, it sounds more militant.

Clifford's Testimony

That was obvious in the testimony of Clark Clifford, McNamara's replacement at the Pentagon, on Capitol Hill today. He took the hard line on the bombing of North Vietnam. Where McNamara talked about "parity" of nuclear weapons with the Soviet, Clifford wanted "supremacy." Where McNamara had his doubts about nuclear powered surface ships, Clifford seemed to be for them. Where McNamara fought against a new family of big bombers to replace the B-52s, Clifford was sympathetic to the idea, and he was determined to stay in Vietnam until the Saigon Government was sure of maintaining itself against Communist pressure, which probably means indefinitely.

All this pleased the Armed Services Committee members, but it did nothing to reassure a capital that has absorbed too many changes and accidents and threats for comfort since the beginning of the new year.

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WASHINGTON POST - 26 JANUARY 1968

Soviet Reaction Restrained

By Anatole Shub
Washington Post Foreign Service

MOSCOW, Jan. 25 — Soviet commentators today compared the Pueblo affair to the Tonkin Gulf incident of August, 1964, which brought on the first American bombing of North Vietnam. They also linked the adventures of the spy ship to both the B-52 crash in Greenland and events in Southeast Asia as evidence of Washington's "provocative" and "dangerous" course.

Soviet press comment was on the whole restrained, consisting mainly of relaying facts and opinions from The Washington Post, New York Times and other Western newspapers and press agencies.

The press appeared to be half a day behind events, which is not unusual here, and offered little evidence that the Soviet leaders have yet handed down a firm line on the crisis.

Thus, tonight's Izvestia left it to New York correspondent S. Kondrashov to compare the "highly strung, nervous atmosphere" in Washington to the time of the attack on the U.S. destroyer Maddox in the Tonkin Gulf.

Tass, in a long account by Moscow commentator Igor Orlov, concentrated on the "angry reaction of world opinion," recalled the U-2 case and similar spy incidents, and said the Pueblo affair "should be taken together" with "the invasion of neutral Cambodia by American troops" and the B-52 accident.

Intense Interest

While Soviet media showed no signs of attempting to fan a crisis atmosphere, Moscow observers had little doubt of the Kremlin's intense interest in the outcome of the affair. The Soviet Union is linked to North Korea by a mutual security treaty, and North Korea has in recent months played a key role in Soviet maneuvers within the world Communist movement.

The Soviet-North Korean treaty, signed in 1961 and valid until 1971, declares that if one of the parties "is exposed to an armed attack" the other party "will immediately render military assistance with the help of all the means at its disposal."

Within the world Communist movement, the North Koreans had been considered pro-Chinese until Peking launched its Cultural Revolution in July, 1966. Patient wooing by the Soviet Union since that time, and particularly in recent months, has brought fair results.

Friendship

North Korea was represented, although not at summit level, at Moscow's 50th anniversary celebrations last November. The Soviet leaders have also gone to considerable lengths in the hope of obtaining North Korean participation in next month's Budapest international communist "consultative meeting" and in the big world conference that the Russians hope will follow.

For example, the Soviet leaders deliberately renounced any hope of Yugoslav participation in those meetings largely because that would make North Korean attendance impossible. The North Koreans still resent Yugoslavia's support for the United Nations effort in the Korean war (which coincided with the Stalin-Tito conflict), and during their long pro-Chinese phase they firmly condemned Yogoslav "revisionism."

Still another price the Soviet Union appears to have paid for partly weaning North Korea away from China has been a muting of Russia's dialogue with Japan. There have been numerous indications since last summer that movement toward a big Soviet-Japanese deal — possibly including a peace treaty, return of some small islands to Japan, and major Japanese investments in Siberia — has been slowed down partly to appease North Korea, which is involved in several disputes with the Japanese.

Moscow Follows

These and other signs of North Korea's special place in Soviet calculations appear to indicate that Moscow is inclined to follow, rather than lead, Pyongyang in the Pueblo incident. That was the case on Tuesday, when Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vassily Kuznetsov told American Ambassador Llewellyn Thompson that Moscow would not intercede with Pyongyang, and that the United States should address its inquiries directly to the North Koreans.

This state of affairs could be promising or dangerous, depending on the North Koreans and the United States.

Should the North Koreans devise a face-saving compromise, such as keeping the Pueblo while releasing its crew, the Soviet Union would certainly be among the first to applaud. But should honor and pride in Pyongyang and Washington bring on a second Korean war, the Soviet Union, a thermonuclear power bound by treaty and a common frontier to North Korea, would be placed in a much more difficult position than by the conflict in Vietnam.

News agencies reported these foreign reactions to the Pueblo seizure and related events:

The Soviet news agency Tass termed the U.S. callup of 14,600 reserve airmen a "threatening act."

British Prime Minister Wilson, just back from an official visit to Moscow, said the United States did not ask him to discuss the incident while he was there. "It did not seem appropriate to raise it and I had not been asked to do so," Wilson said.

London's Foreign Office "deplored" the ship's seizure and said it was convinced the Pueblo had been in international waters. The Times of London, while declaring that there was no legal justification for the capture, cautioned that "there should be no reason in principle why the seizure . . . should lead to a major international crisis."

There was still no official French comment on the incident. The consensus in the press was that North Korea's action was a deliberate provocation as part of an effort to dilute the American focus on Vietnam, Donlad Louchheim of The Washington Post reported from Paris. There was muted press criticism of the United States for allowing itself to be put in such a situation. Nowhere was there was there any support for an American military reaction.

The Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano called for "prudence and sincerity," and warned that the Korean incident and the Vietnam fighting were further complicating the situation in Southeast Asia.

The official North Vietnamese newspaper Nhan Dan called the capture of the Pueblo a "fitting lesson" to U.S. "warmongers." Under the headline "U.S. provocateurs caught red-handed in Korea," the newspaper condemned the American "ballyhoo" over the incident and accused the United States of sending spy ships into Korean waters many times and of thousands of shellings and intrusions into North Korea.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
26 JANUARY 1968

Wife Doubts It

Taped Voice Bucher's?

Special to The Inquirer And Los Angeles Times

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Jan. 25.— The wife of the Navy commander who allegedly told his North Korean captors that the spy ship Pueblo was on a secret mission for the Central Intelligence Agency heard the tape of her husband's confession Thursday and said the voice did not seem to be his.

"I'm not sure that that is my husband's voice," Mrs. Rose Bucher said as she listened to the tape for the first time. "It doesn't sound like my husband."

That was her only response when asked whether Cmdr. Lloyd Bucher, skipper of the ship that was captured in the open sea off North Korea, would be likely to confess under pressure.

Although Mrs. Bucher remained outwardly calm during the first of many interviews, she began weeping, and friends revealed that she had been examined by Navy doctors after she became ill during the night.

Mrs. Bucher, with her sons, Mark, 15, and Michael, 13, has been living in an apartment hotel here since November, when Bucher shipped out on the Pueblo. He was expected to return in April.

WASHINGTON STAR
25 JANUARY 1968(26)

A 'Think Tank' For Congress?

By the Associated Press

Rep. Ogden R. Reid, R-N.Y., says he thinks Congress needs a "think tank."

He introduced a bill yesterday to create a congressional center for study of domestic and international policy. The measure would earmark $115 million for the center, which would bring together scholars and researchers from throughout the country.

Reid said, "Congress must have the capacity to initiate policy rather than merely evaluate and implement that proposed by the executive branch. And to do so, our research must be both independent and creative."

ARMY TIMES - 24 JANUARY 1968 (26)

● 'Too Many Lawyers' Foul M-16 Report

A SPECIAL House Armed Services Subcommittee lashed out at the Army's handling of the M-16 rifle program and criticized the performance of the weapon in a mid-October report.

So far there's been no official Army comment on the document. Pentagon aides claim there're "too many lawyers" in the Defense Department who appear more interested in how the answer should be phrased rather than the substance of the response.

One criticism which particularly bugs Army leaders is the subcommittee contention the Army is guilty of criminal negligence in the handling of the M-16 effort.

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WASHINGTON STAR, 25 January 68 (26)

Johnson Takes a Step Up Escalation Ladder

By ORR KELLY
Star Staff Writer

President Johnson took a classic step up the escalation ladder today in his efforts to impress upon the North Koreans his intention to get the USS Pueblo and her crew returned.

The call-up of 14,600 Air Force, Navy and Air National Guard reservists was almost identically the same as President Kennedy's action during the Cuban missile crisis in 1962.

The call-up—the first move in a wide range of military steps available to the President—was undoubtedly designed to reinforce Johnson's diplomatic efforts to get the ship back.

In testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee today, Clark M. Clifford, the President's choice as new secretary of defense, emphasized that most of the military actions which have been suggested in connection with the Pueblo incident would not guarantee the safe return of the captured crewmen thus emphasizing the importance of diplomatic efforts.

If the initial diplomatic efforts fail, however, the President has other military options that might be used to bring pressure on the North Koreans and their allies.

In the last few years, both civilians like Dr. Herman Kahn, the author of a number of studies of escalation, and military leaders like Gen. Maxwell Taylor, who developed the policy of "flexible response," have written volumes on the options the President has in reacting to almost any emergency.

These studies, now thoroughly incorporated into the Pentagon's basic military strategy, are undoubtedly being relied upon as the President, his civilian advisers and the Joint Chiefs of Staff try to devise a method for getting the ship and crew back with the least possible difficulty.

In Kahn's studies, the seizure of a ship in international waters ranks very high up the scale of military escalation. But the situation would obviously be vastly more grave if the seizure had been undertaken by the Soviet Union rather than one of the smallest nations in the Communist bloc.

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With or without Kremlin approval, it is believed there will be more diversionary tactics against the United States as the war in South Vietnam intensifies.

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The need for more commercial help, Duty said, is caused both by the growing numbers of army aircraft and by the wear and tear and battle damage in Vietnam.

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WASHINGTON STAR, 25 January 68 (26)

Johnson Takes a Step Up Escalation Ladder

By ORR KELLY
Star Staff Writer

President Johnson took a classic step up the escalation ladder today in his efforts to impress upon the North Koreans his intention to get the USS Pueblo and her crew returned.

The call-up of 14,600 Air Force, Navy and Air National Guard reservists was almost identically the same as President Kennedy's action during the Cuban missile crisis in 1962.

The call-up—the first move in a wide range of military steps available to the President—was undoubtedly designed to reinforce Johnson's diplomatic efforts to get the ship back.

In testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee today, Clark M. Clifford, the President's choice as new secretary of defense, emphasized that most of the military actions which have been suggested in connection with the Pueblo incident would not guarantee the safe return of the captured crewmen thus emphasizing the importance of diplomatic efforts.

If the initial diplomatic efforts fail, however, the President has other military options that might be used to bring pressure on the North Koreans and their allies.

In the last few years, both civilians like Dr. Herman Kahn, the author of a number of studies of escalation, and military leaders like Gen. Maxwell Taylor, who developed the policy of "flexible response," have written volumes on the options the President has in reacting to almost any emergency.

These studies, now thoroughly incorporated into the Pentagon's basic military strategy, are undoubtedly being relied upon as the President, his civilian advisers and the Joint Chiefs of Staff try to devise a method for getting the ship and crew back with the least possible difficulty.

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NEW YORK TIMES, 26 January 1968

Excerpts From Clifford's Testimony Before Senate Committee

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25—Following are excerpts from the testimony today of Clark M. Clifford, nominated as Secretary of Defense, before the Armed Service Committee:

CHAIRMAN (RICHARD B.) RUSSELL. Mr. Clifford, have you placed any limitation on the period of time that you are willing to serve as Secretary of Defense?

MR. CLIFFORD. I have not, Mr. Chairman. When Mr. Johnson, when President Johnson, asked that I serve, he did not place any limitation, and I might say I am ready and prepared to serve for whatever length of time he chooses me to do so.

Q. You realize better than most of our people that the Congress, if it is to legislate effectively in the field of national defense, it is necessary that we have the full and unintimidated views of the senior military officers, particularly the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Can you assure the committee that these officers will not be discouraged from giving the committee their real views or not be penalized for giving their real views, even when they are in conflict with your views or those of the President?

A. I would intend to make that the policy of the Department of Defense; that when this committee calls upon members of the military to testify before it, they shall be permitted to give their frank and open opinions on those subjects inquired into by this committee.

Q. You have been rather close to the Department of Defense over the last seven years. Do you have any remaining doubt about the authority of the Secretary of defense to control the decisions of the department or the subdivisions thereof?

A. No sir. These last seven years have been an interesting illustration of the ability of the Secretary to utilize the powers that presently exist in order to make the principal decisions, that is, of course, along with the President of the United States.

Q. Could you give us just a brief statement as to your concept of the proper relations with the committees of Congress in this field and the obligations of a Secretary of Defense to those committees to enable them to perform their function?

A. I would expect that as Secretary of Defense I would have the closest type of cooperation with the appropriate committees of the Congress. I believe that at this particular time in our country's history that close association and coordination is, perhaps, more necessary than ever before.

Some of you have been here longer than I, and I might say only I do not recall perhaps a more perilous time confronting this nation than that which confronts it today.

Opposes Bombing Halt

Senator (Margaret Chase) Smith: Mr. Clifford, do you favor cessation of bombing of North Vietnam?

A. I do not, Senator Smith. I believe that each time the question of the bombing of North Vietnam has come up, I believe it has to be evaluated under the circumstances that exist at that time.

In the past, when it has come up, and on occasion I have been present at some of those discussions, I have suggested that we ascertain what we believe the result of such cessation would be.

Up until now I have felt that it would be damaging to our cause. The time might come, Senator, and I would hope that it would, when it would be presented to us in such a manner that I could agree that it was appropriate for there to be a suspension in the bombing. That time certainly has not yet arrived as far as I am concerned.

Q. Mr. Clifford, in view of the piracy in the capture of the U.S.S. Pueblo, should the reserves be mobilized?

A. The circumstances surrounding the incident, which are considered to be exceedingly grave, are now under the closest kind of consideration by the President and his chief advisers. He asked that I sit in the meetings yesterday which were held from early morning until late at night. I did so. That subject and a number of others, Senator, are under immediate consideration. If you would permit me to say so, I believe that I would not be at liberty to comment on it at this time.

Q. Under what conditions, if you care to state, do you believe that the reserves should be called up?

A. My answer would be general in that regard: If we reach the stage where the threat to this nation's safety is substantially increased over that that exists now. It could come about as a result of developments in the Far East. It could come about as result of developments following the incident involving the Pueblo.

At any stage, that this country's safety and security warrants, because of this type of incident which would indicate that additional trouble lies ahead. I think the President could well call up the reserves.

SENATOR (JACK) MILLER. You participated in the Manila Conference. To refresh my memory on this, is it true that one of the points of the, or the agreement of the Manila Conference was, if North Vietnam withdrew from South Vietnam, withdrew its forces from South Vietnam, that within six months thereafter the United States would withdraw its military forces? Now, if your military advisers told you that we could not withdraw our military forces under such circumstances without the probable loss of South Vietnam to the Vietcong, would it be your purpose to try to obtain a change in that agreement?

A. I believe no change in that agreement would be necessary. There is protective language in there which could be and would be very valuable to us.

The language, as I recall it has been a year or more, it sets up certain condition precedents. One is if the North Vietnamese withdraw; the second condition is if all infiltration of men, material and supplies, that is the significance of it, if all infiltration ceases.

There is a third qualification that is a general one, that if it seems—this is a little too broad, but if it seems safe to do so, that within six months our forces would withdraw.

So that I am not disturbed by the language because it is guarded, those conditions are such that I assure you if there is any doubt at all about the ability of South Vietnam to defend itself I would certainly cast my vote to the point that we stay until we are sure that they can take care of themselves.

None of us are going to have the sacrifices that we have made there come to naught by that kind of withdrawal.

I say, however, that in that regard one of our major tasks is during the process now to build up the South Vietnamese strength.

Some progress has been made in that regard. I would hope greater progress and more rapid progress would be made, so that my hope is the day will come when they will be able to defend themselves.

Q. Thank you for that excellent answer. Would you please tell us what is your concept of our objectives in the war in Vietnam?

A. Yes sir. First, we have a limited objective. Our limitel objective is to assure to the South Vietnamese people the right of self-determination, give them the right to select the type of government they choose and to conduct it in the manner that they wish, without their being forced by the subjugation from within, or by application of force from without, to have another kind of life in their country.

In that regard, it is not and certainly must not be our intention to acquire any territory of any sort. I certainly don't wish to destroy North Vietnam. I wish only, as far as my opinion is concerned, to convince them they will never prevail in their efforts to conquer South Vietnam, and when that point is understood by them, and they realize that we are determined and we are persistent and we are patient, then the day will come when I believe that they find out the game is not worth the candle, and then I think we will have peace.

Q. If those objectives that you have detailed are not attained, if anyone of them is not attained, would you conclude that we have not fulfilled our commitment to South Vietnam?

A. I am not a prophet or seer. I can't look that far into the future. I do not know what is going to take place there. I do not know what our obligations are going to be over the world. I could say that I believe that we shall continue until we have obtained self-determination there, and I do not hear it suggested any place within the Executive Branch that there shall be any other goal. I don't know any better way to answer your question.

Q. Well, the question comes up about a possible negotiated settlement of this war. It would seem that in view of what you have said our objectives are, that the negotiated settlement must encompass those objectives, otherwise we would have negotiated away one or more of our objectives. And that, therefore, any negotiated settlement must encompass those objectives, otherwise, we would have failed in our commitments.

A. I understand it now. I am in accord with what I understand to be the thought that you are expressing. I am not in favor of negotiations just for the sake of negotiations. I am not in favor of forcing upon the South Vietnamese people any kind of government that they do not voluntarily and independently choose. So that I believe as we enter into that phase. Should we—that we, together with the South Vietnamese, must find the answer which will preserve the independence of South Vietnam. If we do not do that, I believe we have not reached our goal.

Q. There has been much talk about winning the war and there appears to be some confusion over this. Would you say if we attained those minimal objectives we would have won the war insofar as our objectives are concerned?

A. I would say, generally, yes. It is a different kind of war and that is one reason why it is difficult, perhaps, for the American people to understand it. We are fighting a limited war. We are not fighting to destroy our enemy. We are fighting to persuade our enemy to withdraw from South Vietnam and to leave it alone. But I might say that as far as talking about a military victory is concerned, I believe in a great respect we have already attained a type of victory in South Vietnam. I believe our presence there, our successful presence there, has many times justified the cost to us in our men and in our treasure, for as one travels in Southeast Asia he finds that this is the general attitude.

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WASHINGTON POST, 24 January 1968 (26)

DEFENSE ECONOMY AX ABOLISHES 10,000 JOBS

By Jerry Kluttz

More than 10,000 civilian jobs are being abolished by the **Army** in the Defense Department's latest economy program. The number could be even larger by next July 1. This is the lineup:

About 5000 jobs were abolished as of last Dec. 30. About 40 per cent of them were vacant at the time and they were merely canceled. The remainder were filled by temporary employes. More than 1000 employes were laid off before the expiration of their temporary appointments.

Another 3700 jobs will be abolished as of Jan. 31. An estimated 800 career employes will be among those to be laid off at that time. They were given layoff notices a week before Christmas.

Tentatively, another 1400 employes, largely career people, will be given notices Feb. 15 to be effective the end of March. The Department has promised 45-day notices to career employes and shorter notices to temporaries.

Unless the Department can get down to its lower job ceilings through normal turnover by June 1, another layoff effective the end of that month is possible. Ceilings are set by the **Defense Department** and the **Budget Bureau**.

Several hundred vacant jobs at headquarters here have been abolished but no employe there has yet been laid off.

Layoffs have been centered in two major activities—depots operated by the **Army Material Command** and centers where military personnel are trained before they are shipped overseas. Both activities have had to expand their civilian staffs to support the war in Vietnam, and they have overspent their budget allowances in doing it.

Some people suspect that military personnel and contractors will now be used to do some of the work formerly handled by civilians.

If this happens, the Department will be inviting legal action from its civilians to try to save their jobs. The **American Federation of Government Employes** was successful in having the **National Aeronautics and Space Administration** enjoined from laying off 540 civilians until it can be determined if contract employes doing similar work are being retained.

Overseas: The Budget Bureau estimates it costs an average of $25,000 for each American citizen who is assigned to a Federal job overseas. The figure includes salary, travel and the like.

The high cost is one of the reasons the President has ordered a 10 per cent cutback in the overseas staffs of the **State Department, the U.S. Information Agency** and the **Agency for International Development.** Local nationals can be employed at a fraction of that cost.

New Cabinet Jobs: Jobs of Assistant Secretary for Manpower have been created in each of the **Army, Navy** and **Air Force**, and they were all to be filled by outsiders. Each Department has a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Manpower.

AIR FORCE TIMES
24 January 1968 (26)

New DoD Post Goes to Brehm

WASHINGTON — A new post, that of Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Land Forces Programs, has been established in the Pentagon.

William K. Brehm, 38, gets the job. He has been working for Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Analysis Dr. Alain Enthoven in a similar but lower-ranking job since 1964.

Brehm will be responsible for analysis of all Defense Department land forces programs, including combat and support forces, force structure, deployments, readiness, weapons, materiel and manpower requirements.

CLIFFORD'S TESTIMONY ---- Continued

They have no hope in the French. The British are withdrawing from Malaysia and Singapore. If it were not for the United States there would be no hope there, and others will have different opinions, but to me it is not a question of years, it is a question of weeks and months, if we weren't there until Southeast Asia, nation by nation, succumbed, and that is not happening now, and it is not happening, in my opinion, because we are there, and because we have extended this shield, and I believe we must continue to do it.

Q. Mr. Clifford, are you satisfied with the way the war is being conducted now? And I think a yes or no answer would suffice and I don't wish to ask you to go into specifics. I think I can understand why you prefer not to. A.—Well, I thank you for the latter comment because my answer is yes.

Q. There isn't any doubt in your mind, Mr. Clifford, that a cessation of bombing under present circumstances would lead to more casualties on our side and the side of our allies than would otherwise take place, is there?

A. When you preface your question by saying under present circumstances I agree. Under present circumstances when the North Vietnamese are willing to make no concessions whatsoever for a cessation of the bombing I agree. It is my hope that the time will come, and the sooner the better, that the North Vietnamese will indicate some reciprocal action. We have not asked for much. The President hasp laced it at almost an irreducible minimum. He has said, "If you will agree to talk promptly, if you will also not to take advantage of the suspension we will stop the bombing." It seems to me this is a minimal requirement. They have chosen not to do it. My hope is that they soon will, and I should be the first, and maybe as happy as anyone, to see the bombing stopped. But in my opinion it can't stop with their present wholly and completely intransigent attitude.

SENATOR (HOWARD W.) CANNON. It has been widely reported that the Defense Department planners have considered several military options that are open to the United States, should the diplomatic efforts to free the Pueblo fail. Among those under most consideration, according to the reports, are an attempt to storm the Wonsan harbor and forcibly retrieve the vessel; seizure or destruction of one or more North Korean ships as retaliation, or for potential bargaining power; aerial bombing and sinking of the Pueblo at the Wonsan docks to deny Communist counter-intelligence teams any further access to any electronic intelligence-gathering equipment that may be on board, or a Naval blockade of Wonsan and, perhaps, other North Korean ports.

Now, do I take it from your answer to Senator Smith that you do not prefer to discuss any of the alternatives that might be available to the United States in view of the fact that they are still under active consideration?

A. Yes, that would be my answer and must of necessity, be my answer, Senator. I would say only that I know the President is making every effort to find a diplomatic solution because if one will analyze those courses of action which you have just enumerated, none of those get our 83 men back, and the President would like very much to get those 83 Americans out of the hands of the North Koreans and get them back, and I believe that he will make every effort along the diplomatic front to achieve that purpose.

Q. Is it a fact, then, that in your opinion any overt military move which we might be able to take now could very likely jeopardize the safety and lives of the men on the Pueblo? A. That is entirely possible, and I think that the President must be convinced that he has exhausted the diplomatic alternative before any other action is taken.

Q. Without getting into possible solutions to the problem, I would like to ask, in view of what has happended, whether or not it would be your intention upon taking office to immediately review the decision-making process and the authorities granted that would permit a lightly armed U.S. ship, without protection, to sail close to hostile shores even though in international waters?

A. The answer to that would be a simple "yes." I believe that the policy in that regard should be examined with meticulous care and might very well be re-evaluated.

SENATOR (STROM) THURMOND: When you spoke of negotiating, in that case you would be willing to have a cessation of bombing. I presume that that would contemplate that they would stop their military activities, too, if we would be expected to have a cessation of bombing.

A. No, that is not what I said. I do not expect them to stop their military activities. I would expect to follow the language of the President when he said that if they would agree to start negotiations promptly and not take advantage of the pause in the bombing.

Q. What do you mean by taking advantage if they continue their military activities?

A. Their military activity will continue in South Vietnam, I assume, until there is a cease fire agreed upon. I assume that they will continue to transport the normal amount of goods, munitions, men, to South Vietnam. I assume that we will continue to maintain our forces and support our forces during that period. So what I am suggesting is, in the language of the President, that he would insist that they not take advantage of the suspension of the bombing.

Q. How would you keep them from taking advantage if we had a cessation of bombing? A. There is no way to keep them from taking advantage. If they state they are going to refrain from taking advantage, and then refuse to do so, then they have not met their agreement, and the conditions for the negotiations have failed.

Q. And then, if they did violate that, you would favor then resuming bombing, I would presume.

A. I would assume we would have no alternative. If they did not meet their obligations or we do not meet our obligations, then I assume there is absolutely no sense in negotiating. It would be a useless task. To negotiate there has to be good faith if any result is to be achieved and if, during the negotiations, bad faith is evidenced then there is no need to negotiate.

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WASHINGTON POST 26 JANUARY 1968

Clifford Represented Arms Firms

By Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson

Every Secretary of Defense since the office was estalished in 1947 has represented the industrial-military alliance which President Eisenhower warned against in his last message to the American people. They have been either industrialists themselves or lawyers like Louis Johnson or bankers like James Forrestal representing big defense industries.

The new Secretary of Defense, Clark Clifford, is no exception.

The only real exception was Robert S. McNamara who, though head of the second largest motor company in the world—Ford—had been a teacher, was essentially humanitarian, and time after time bucked the alliance which Eisenhower warned against. McNamara's theory, which he successfully sold to LBJ, was that nuclear war was so catastrophic the only solution was not to increase our already bristling arsenal of missiles but to negotiate missile and nuclear agreements with Russia instead.

Time after time McNamara refused to spend the billions voted by Rep. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.) and other hawks in Congress for atomic-powered airplane carriers, the B-70 bomber and an anti-ballistic missile network. This eventually contributed to his downfall. The hawkish-minded politics on Capitol Hill, plus the military-industrial alliance, packed too much of a punch with Congress.

Clark Clifford, on the other hand, has spent all of his career as a private attorney defending some of the defense giants. He has been on their side in their battles against the same U.S. Government which he will now represent as Secretary of Defense.

Contractors Roll Call

These clients have pulled down in the fiscal year 1967 the sum total of $1,890,200,000 in defense contracts plus $494,659,000 in research grants, all from Uncle Sam.

General Electric, in the fiscal year 1967, ranked fourth among the defense contractors of the Nation, with a total of $1,289,800,000 in war orders. GE also received as a gift from Uncle Sam a total of $439,090,000 for research and development.

Another of Clifford's clients, the Radio Corporation of America, received $268,000,000 in defense contracts, plus $54,429,000 in grants from Uncle Sam.

Du Pont received $179,600,000 in defense contracts, and $1,140,000 in grants for research.

Standard Oil of California, another Clifford client, received $152,800,000 in defense contracts.

Clifford has done a phenomenal job for these clients. He got the du Pont family's tax bill drastically reduced when they faced the prospect of paying Uncle Sam $470 million in taxes after the court decreed they had to sell their General Motors stock. This was done by an act of Congress.

Later, when General Motors stock went up in value, Clifford saved the du Pont family around $56 million additional by persuading the Treasury to write a special tax ruling for the du Ponts.

Clifford has also represented the largest pipeline company in the world, El Paso Natural Gas, which three times has been cracked down on by the Supreme Court for trying to combine with Pacific Northwest Gas. Somehow or other the battery of astute lawyers always got El Paso's dubious claims past a complacent Justice Department and a previously supine Federal Power Commission, now much improved. They were not successful, however, in lulling the Supreme Court.

It should be noted that Clifford was not alone. For various legal footwork, El Paso paid Richard Nixon's law firm $77,629.20 in one year and the John Foster Dulles law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell $946,645.54 over a longer period of time.

Uncle Sam's Lawyer

As Secretary of Defense, Clifford will be in the position of switching his very considerable talents for Uncle Sam. The only question is whether he has been so long steeped in the atmosphere of his industrial clients that he can make the switch. His friends, including Lyndon B. Johnson, are convinced he can.

He understands the language of the defense giants and could be just as tough on them as he was with the U.S. Government when he represented the giants against the Government.

Another asset will be his ability to speak the language of Capitol Hill. Clifford is an old poker-playing Truman Democrat who has taken money away from the toughest hawks in the House and Senate. Unlike Bob McNamara, who talked with graphs and computers, Clark Clifford can talk the language of the bourbon highball. Unfortunately this is almost essential when it comes to dealing with headstrong Congressmen such as Mendel Rivers who are convinced they know more about missiles and carriers than any Secretary of Defense.

Making the transition from a tough corporation lawyer to a tough lawyer for Uncle Sam will not be easy. Some lawyers, when they join the Government, never get it done. But we believe Clifford will do it. He is an honest and extremely able man.

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NEW YORK POST 25 JANUARY 1968 (26)

For Mr. Clifford by WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR.

You will have noticed that Mr. Clark Clifford, our forthcoming Secretary of Defense, has been coy on the question whether he is a hawk or a dove, disdaining, as he put it, "such ornithological categories." But the wise men in Washington tell us that he is convinced of the rightness of the Veitnam war, and indeed it is unlikely that President Johnson would have appointed to sit at his left hand someone who substantially disagreed with him on so important a question.

It has even been whispered that Mr. Clifford will pursue the objectives of victory in Vietnam more wholeheartedly than Mr. McNamara did, about whom the insiders tell of great agonizing over the entire matter, an agonizing which cannot compare with the agonizing of American soldiers as they hear shells drop over them which were manufactured in the Soviet Union and found their way to the war front because Mr. McNamara—and Mr. Johnson—agonize over world opinion.

But let us assume that the conduct of the Vietnam war will proceed more or less at the pace of the last year or two, and hope that the cumulative pressures on North Vietnam will begin to tell, and that before long the military creaking and groaning will abate. What then? What will we see after it is over in Vietnam?

A period of peace in the Southeast Asian part of the world we are entitled to expect. But history teaches us the unlikelihood that there will be peace everywhere in the world. And all the less likely considering the techniques of the modern revolutionists, who have learned to cause so much disturbance with so few men.

The so-called wars of liberation are certain to prove to be the military Model A Ford of the 20th century—cheap, durable, and ubiquitous. All it takes is a couple of thousand guerrillas, a pipeline to the Soviet Union, a local Che Guevara, and you are in business.

Inasmuch as the U. S. is primarily charged with the responsibilities for counteraction, it is we who need to think beyond the Vietnam war and ask ourselves whether we are willing again to pay so high a price as we will have paid in Vietnam in order to contain other national liberation fronts in other parts of the world.

Mr. Clifford should turn his attention to the problem, and surely the place to start would be by announcing a future commitment to the volunteer army. If you like, to the mercenary army. The arguments in favor of it have been frequently rehearsed, as recently as in 1964 by both the Presidential candidates. As is so often the case with election year promises, nothing has been done, nothing in this case to phase out the draft. Perhaps the reason why is the great manpower demands of the Vietnam war.

But that is no reason for putting off a public discussion of the volunteer military, and it is always appropriate to bigthink about strategic matters upon taking the oath of office, which oath Mr. Clifford is about to take.

The conventional arguments are that a) a professional force renders professional services. As things now stand, an American technican becomes highly qualified, highly useful, by let us say June, and in September his tour of duty is over. b) The extra cost of luring men into a professional military force is not likely to exceed the great cost of continually training the millions of young men whose services are used over so short a period. To which conventional argument should be added, c) the great commotion caused by a draft, and the influence of that commotion on the formulation of an effective foreign policy backed up by a mobile armed force.

If the U. S. is going to help out next year in Brazil, the year after in the Sudan, and the year after that in Nigeria, surely we do not want to replay the tensions of the existing war? It is bad enough to contemplate another half-century of financing resistance to the Communists throughout the world, but it is more than flesh and blood can bear to contemplate a 90-year-old Dwight Macdonald refusing his 25th consecutive invitation to the White House.

The influence of American youth and their epigoni, the intellectuals, the academicians, the opinion-makers, on foreign policy is considerable and in some ways healthy. Their indisposition to go on and fight in these grubby wars in grubby parts of the world is altogether understandable. But until we simply give up on the rest of the world, we have got to help out.

And the way to do that is primarily by making arms available, and also small, professional forces which will absorb the shock until such moment as the locals are trained to attend to their own defense. Perhaps someone in Washington will be good enough to question Mr. Clifford on the matter at his next press conference.

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, 26 January 1968

Thang's resignation jars Saigon

Second of a two-part series about revamping the South Vietnamese armed forces.

By Beverly Deepe
Special correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

Saigon

While concentrated efforts are being made to improve South Vietnam's 300,000-man provincial forces, their newly appointed commander has protested Saigon snafus and military in-fighting by resigning and taking annual leave.

The resignation of Gen. Nguyen Duc Thang—one of Saigon's most controversial, competent, and dynamic generals—has not yet been accepted, and considerable discussion has arisen here over whether it will be. General Thang—sometimes called "the blitz general"—is currently on leave for an unspecified duration.

Although he has submitted his resignation from the South Vietnamese Army a number of times in the past General Thang has continued to rise in either military or governmental circles.

It would be considered a serious blow to the rock-bottom limits of the Army's leadership if he were to be dropped from the military roster. He is currently the No. 2 officer at the Vietnamese high command, responsible for the provincial forces plus the Revolutionary Development Cadre, who implement the critical pacification program.

The appointment of General Thang as commander of the provincial forces was considered here to be one of the most clean-cut, significant steps in improving the combat effectiveness of these units. The 1968 program for revamping the 670,000-man armed forces will concentrate on these provisional forces—equivalent to 25 conventional army divisions in strength—rather than in the regular ground forces.

Two groupings included

These provincial forces are composed of two paramilitary groupings: The 150,000-man Popular Forces, who are part-time fighters and part-time farmers in the 250 districts throughout the countryside, and the 150,000-man Regional Forces, who operate at the provincial level in the countryside.

These two groupings, often affectionately called "Ruffs" and "Puffs" for their RF and PF designations, sustain heavier battlefield casualties and desertion rates than the regular forces. They also kill a higher proportion of Communists.

Yet, they are paid smaller salaries, have fewer fringe benefits, and have the poorest grade of weapons. The salary of a Popular Forces private is 2,200 piasters a month (roughly $22) plus 200 piasters ($2) a month in rice allowances for each member of his family.

General Thang is the first officer at the central-government level to have centralized operational control of the Regional and Popular Forces. In the past, generals at the Saigon level have assumed only logistical and administrative responsibility for the widely scattered forces considered by some to be the "unsung heroes" of the war. At the lower levels, a new deputy has been appointed to each province chief to look after the interests of the Regional and Popular Forces.

"This is mostly a psychological play to make the little RF and PF feel they have a daddy," one reliable source reported.

Special units set up

Most of the other improvements in the Regional and Popular Forces center in the logistical and administrative fields. An administrative, support, and logistical unit has been set up in each of the 44 provinces tailored to serve better the needs of the forces, which frequently operate miles away from headquarter cities.

In some provinces, a small element of the Regional and Popular Forces will be held in reserve, so that in times of trouble it can reinforce a sister unit without aid of the Vietnamese regulars.

Beginning this year, plans were made to computerize the accounting system of the Popular Forces by starting a "by-name," punch-card IBM system to keep better track of the individual trooper. This system was started with the Regional Forces in July, 1966, and in January of that year the regular Army took it up also.

This would presumably eliminate the past practice of "phantom soldiers"—names on payrolls of persons who either never existed or else had been killed or wounded months before.

General Thang's disappointment, which led to his submitting his resignation, centered on several things: the greater command and responsibility for the administration of the provinces; the changing and training of new province chiefs; and the lack of transfer of authority over the regular Army battalions assigned to a province for pacification-support missions from the division commanders to the province chiefs.

Pacification supported

These pacification-support forces now include elements of the 960 Regional Force companies, the 4,300 Popular Force platoons, now under the day-to-day operational control of the province chief, plus the 50 to 60 regular battalions of regular Vietnamese Army troops, which take orders either from the province chiefs or their division commanders, or sometimes both.

A fourth component—but not for security — is the Revolutionary Development cadres, the activists who are building schools, market places, and dispensaries at the hamlet level for their pacification assignments. These cadres now are under the control of General Thang, at the military command, rather than under the government's Ministry of Revolutionary Development, General Thang's last post.

General Thang, a northerner, is one of the most controversial and most progressive-thinking generals in the South Vietnamese command. But he is commonly identified with Vice-President Nguyen Cao Ky—certainly on issues of radical change—and this has not endeared him to President Thieu, who is in disagreement with Vice-President Ky on many points.

General Thang has in the past been closely identified with retired Air Force Gen. Edward Landsdale, the so-called kingmaker of Ramon Magsaysay during the Philippines insurgency. This in turn has not endeared General Thang to many of the more tradition-minded, anti-Lansdale American generals.

General Thang is also often identified with Robert Komer, the deputy commander in the American military establishment for pacification, who is also known to have considerable disagreements with the more conventional approaches of the American generals.

Reform proposal recalled

General Thang was known to have supported the radical-reform proposal in which the politico-military powers of the 10 Vietnamese division commanders and four corps commanders would have been substantially reduced; thus, General Thang lost the support of this powerful clique of generals.

These more conservative Vietnamese generals charge General Thang with "empire building" and "chasing after the Americans." They also resent the support General Thang has from Vice-President Ky who they say, as an Air Force general, "is not military minded and has not commanded infantry troops in his whole life."

The Ky-Thang-Komer hope was to move the Vietnamese division and corps commanders out of the politico-military chain of command. This has, for the time being, been blocked by some pivotal American and Vietnamese generals. The first group wanted to establish a direct link between the central government in Saigon and the 44 province chiefs, who are both the political heads and military commanders of General Thang's Popular and Regional Forces.

Control move blocked

General Thang also wanted the province chiefs, rather than division commanders, to control those regular Army battalions assigned to pacification within given provinces. But this, too, has been blocked in given instances by the generals at this time.

Even more important is the issue of who appoints and trains the province chiefs. And for the past two months high-level intrigue on the Vietnamese side has revolved around this point. General Thang drew up a list of the province chiefs, 15 now in that post, and 29 new ones who have been appointed from other positions. These 44 were to be trained beginning Dec. 4 at the Vung Tau school where General Thang's Revolutionary Development Cadres are tutored.

When the Vietnamese corps commanders torpedoed this project, it was rescheduled for late December, when the Ky-Thieu conflict again postponed it. This disgusted General Thang, who submitted his resignation in early January.

President Thieu has since told General Thang to set up the training course for Feb. 2. But General Thang has reportedly refused, and most of the training now is scheduled to take place in Saigon instead of at the Vung Tau school.

The Saigon government in the past has formally appointed the 44 province chiefs throughout the countryside. In practice, however, the job has often been sold by the corps commander, sometimes for as much as 5,000,000 piasters—roughly $5,000 (United States).

Jobs often sold

The subordinate job of district chief was often sold by the division commander. The net effect was rampant corruption by these officers, plus a tie-up of government, with the district chiefs often quarreling with the province chiefs.

In the past several months, General Thang was responsible for selecting the 29 newly appointed province chiefs — which cut into the financial benefits of the corps commander—and he wanted to move them into their new jobs in blitz fashion.

Now, however, the central government has decided on a slow-motion change of province chiefs.

General Thang was also eager to begin training the Popular Forces not simply as security forces, but also as an integrated part of the Revolutionary Development cadre program, in which they would assist with the construction of schools, wells, and marketplaces. But this plan, while reportedly approved by General Komer, has been blocked by high-civil American generals, by President Thieu, and by the corps commanders.

NEWSWEEK, 29 January 1968 (26)

HO'S PRICE FOR U.S. PILOTS

Communist Party leaders in Hanoi say that Ho Chi Minh's price for releasing the more than 200 American pilots is that the U.S. agree to pay for all damages caused by the bombing of the north. Defense Secretary McNamara last summer estimated that the U.S. inflicted $320 million in bombing damage in North Vietnam from February 1965 to July 1967. Note: the United States has lost 767 aircraft worth $2 billion over the north.

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PRESS

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PUEBLO-NORTH KOREA (TOPS 14)

WASHINGTON (AP)-THE COMMANDER OF THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE SHIP PUEBLO ORDERED TOP SECRET CODES AND ELECTRONIC GEAR DESTROYED AS NORTH KOREANS BOARDED HIS SHIP, SOURCES SAID TODAY.

THE DISCLOSURE CAME AS A FOUR-SHIP NAVY TASK FORCE, INCLUDING THE CARRIER ENTERPRISE, CRUISED TOWARD NORTH KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES APPLIED DIPLOMATIC LEVERAGE IN A BID TO RECOVER THE VESSEL AND HER 85 MEN.

THE PENTAGON KNOWS THE ELABORATE DESTRUCT PROCEDURES-DESIGNED TO PREVENT CRITICAL INFORMATION FROM FALLING INTO ENEMY HANDS-WERE INITIATED, SOURCES DISCLOSED.

IT WAS NOT DETERMINED WHETHER ALL THE CLASSIFIED GEAR WAS BURNED OR DUMPED OVERBOARD. THE PENTAGON ASSUMES THAT MOST OF THE VALUABLE MATERIAL WAS DESTROYED.

THE PROCEDURE INCLUDED THE FIRING OF EXPLOSIVE DESTRUCT DEVICES AROUND THE COMMUNICATIONS PARAPHERNALIA.

THERE WERE REPORTS THE PUEBLO'S FOUR WOUNDED MEN WERE INJURED BY THE EXPLOSIVES, BUT SOURCES SAID "WE REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED" TO THE MEN.

NORTH KOREA, IN A MONITORED BROADCAST, CLAIMED KILLING AND WOUNDING SOME OF THE PUEBLO'S CREWMEN.

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JAN 68

PRESS

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PUEBLO-EQUIPMENT

WASHINGTON (AP)-NORTH KOREAN CAPTURE OF THE PUEBLO GIVES THE COMMUNISTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE SOME OF THE MOST MODERN U.S. EQUIPMENT USED IN ELECTRONIC INTELLIGENCE GATHERING.

MESSAGES FROM THE PUEBLO BEFORE SHE WAS OVERWHELMED INDICATE THE CREW MAY HAVE SUCCEEDED IN DESTROYING AT LEAST SOME OF THE SECRET GEAR AND CODES.

BUT IT APPEARED LIKELY THAT THERE STILL WAS MUCH EQUIPMENT WHICH THE COMMUNISTS COULD STUDY WITH PROFIT TO THEM.

EXAMINATION OF OFFICIAL NAVY PICTURES OF THE PUEBLO SHOWS SOME OF THE EXTE RNAL EQUIPMENT.

1. TWIN ANTENNAE INDICATE THE DIRECTION OF SIGNALS BEING MONITORED SO OTHER DEVICES CAN HOME IN ON THEM.

2. THE PUEBLO IS FITTED WITH LONG POLES APPEARING TO SUPPORT CABLES FOR SENDING MESSAGES TO SUBMERGED SUBMARINES VIA LOW RE-QUENCY RADIO WAVES.

3. RADAR EQUIPMENT APPARENTLY DESIGNED FOR CAROMING SIGNALS OFF THE TROPOSPHERE--THE LOWER ATMOSPHERE. THIS METHOD IS ESPECIALLY SUITABLE FOR LISTENING IN ON MESSAGES BETWEEN AIRCRAFT AND GROUND CONTROLLERS.

JC1235PES JAN 24

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WASHINGTON--ADD PUEBLO-EQUIPMENT (63)

4. A CONVEZ ANTENNA, FOCUSED SKYWARD, PROBABLY FOR LISTENING IN ON AIRCRAFT RADIO CONVERSATIONS.

THE MID-SECTION OF THE 935-TON PUEBLO IS CONSIDERED A PROBABLE SITE FOR EQUIPMENT THAT RECORDS MESSAGES INTERCEPTED BY OTHER DEVICES--INFORMATION PROBABLY RELAYED BACK TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY AT FT. MEADE, MD., FOR DECODING AND ANALYSIS.

NAVY SOURCES INDICATED THE PUEBLO PROBABLY HAD UNDERWATER HYDROPHONES, WITH A LINE TRAILING BEHIND THE CRAFT UNDER THE SURFACE OF THE WATER.

THE HYDROPHONES PICK UP SOUNDS OF SUBMARINES AND THE UNDERWATER CHURNING OF SHIP PROPELLERS. SINCE SHIPS MAKE SOMEWHAT INDIVIDUALISTIC SOUNDS, THESE IDENTIFIABLE "SIGNATURES" CAN BE USED BY INTELLIGENCE EXPERTS, AFTER BEING RECORDED, FOR LATER IDENTIFICATION.

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Concern Over Pueblo Voiced in Soviet Press

By EDMUND STEVENS
Special to The Star

MOSCOW — Although Soviet diplomacy has so far declined the American request to act as a go-between in seeking the release of the USS Pueblo from North Korea, the Soviet press reflects mounting concern here lest the incident kindle another conflagration.

Moscoe naturally accepts unquestioningly the assertion of its North Korean ally that the Pueblo was captured in North Korean territorial waters.

Pravda's Washington correspondent, Boris Strelnikov, cabled his paper by way of confirmation that no less an authority than Sen. J. William Fullbright, D-Ark., admitted that this time the United States was caught red handed and that the Pueblo was indeed engaged in espionage.

Adds Strelnikov: "Sensible Americans do not believe the Pentagon version that the Pueblo was seized in international waters."

To the Russians the Pueblo readily invites comparison with the U2 incident when the U.S. spy plane piloted by Gary Powers was shot down over Sverdlovsk thousands of miles inside the U.S.S.R.

The Russians still recall "cover stories" floated by U.S. spokesmen before ex-Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev revealed the truth.

Almost as if anticipating the Pueblo incident, the Soviet press recently reprinted an article from the Italian weekly "Epoca" describing the sophisticated electronic worldwide espionage masterminded by the National Security Agency and the part played by intelligence gathering ships.

The seizure of the Pueblo coincided somewhat with the arrival in Moscow yesterday of a North Korean delegation headed by the deputy chief of state.

Conceivably the Pueblo incident and the attempt by North Korean infiltrators to kill South Korean President Chung Hee Park could be designed to warn the United States that continued escalation in Vietnam could lead to retaliatory action elsewhere in Asia.

But most observers here agree Moscow neither programs nor anticipates a major crisis in Korea. Otherwise, it's unlikely Premier Alexei N. Kosygin would have departed for New Delhi.

Soviet propaganda has had a field day playing up the U.S. incursion into Cambodia and the B52 crash in Greenland with its nuclear bomb load as examples of aggressive brinkmanship by the U.S. military and proof of the Soviet contention that American policy is the main threat to world peace.

Meanwhile, the rumblings from Korea virtually drowned out the peace-loving beeps generated by British Prime Minister Harold Wilson's Moscow talks.

The British press spokesman sought to encourage optimism while the talks were going on by liberal use of such adjectives as "frank, friendly and constructive" while disclosing nothing of substance.

The joint communique, however, said little. The main indication that on Vietnam the gap had been narrowed, as Wilson claimed, was the affirmation that both sides supported the principles of the Geneva agreements and would work jointly and separately for a just political solution.

Unlike the communique after Wilson's visit last year, it included no expression of regret at failure to reach agreement on Vietnam.

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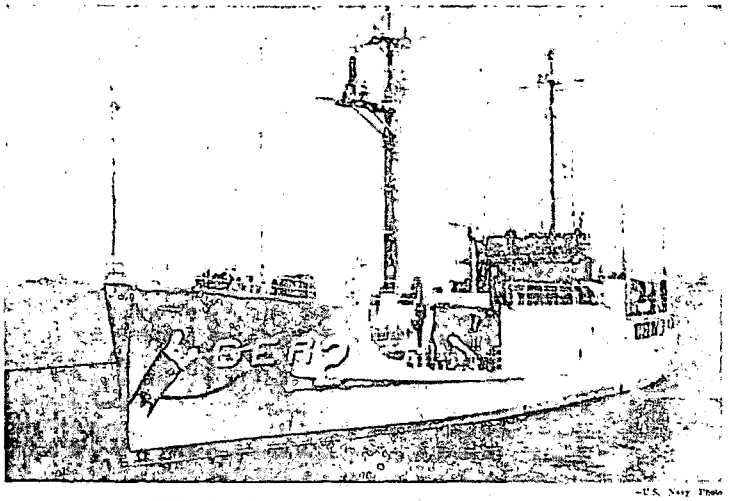
Weather Forecast
District and vicinity—Rain becoming mixed with or turning to snow tonight; cold, low in upper 20s. Cloudy, windy and cold tomorrow, precipitation ending, high in 20s. Chance of precipitation 60 percent tonight, 30 percent tomorrow. Today's low, 35 at 4:35 a.m.; high, 47 at 2 p.m.
Full Report on Page E-6

The Evening Star
WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

Stocks Final
Closing New York Market
Page A-11
Prices Today: Lower

116th Year. No. 23. Copyright © 1968 The Evening Star Newspaper Co. WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1968—38 PAGES Phone LI. 3-5000 10 Cents

U.S. Navy Ship With 83 Men Seized by North Korean Boats



—U.S. Navy Photo

This is the USS Pueblo seized by the North Koreans today.

Intelligence Vessel Apparently in Port, U.S. Seeks Release

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN
Star Staff Writer

North Korea today seized a U.S. Navy intelligence ship and apparently forced it into a North Korean port. The United States said it viewed the incident with "utmost gravity" and called for the "immediate release" of the ship and its 83-man crew.

The USS Pueblo was surrounded by North Koreans in four patrol boats, boarded and captured while MIG aircraft flew overhead, the Pentagon said.

The State Department said the Soviet Union was asked today to convey to North Korea the "urgent request" for the release of the Pueblo and its crew. The U.S. does not have diplomatic relations with North Korea.

"I want to re-emphasize the seriousness with which we view this flagrant North Korean action against a U.S. Naval vessel on the high seas," State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said.

U. S. officials also said they are taking "a very serious view" of the apparent step-up in Communist military action within South Korea—and the apparent desire of North Korea to increase tensions throughout the area.

Will Take Demand to N. Koreans

McCloskey said that the matter of the ship's release will also be brought up directly with North Korea at a meeting of the Military Armistice Commission which is charged with enforcing the 1953 armistice that ended the Korean war.

A meeting of the 10-man group — five United Nations officers and five Communists—is scheduled for 9 p.m. EST today at Panmunjom. The meeting had been scheduled to discuss a U.N. complaint about the attempt on Sunday night by North Korean agents to assassinate South Korean President Chung Hee Park.

The Defense Department said the Pueblo—a 179-foot "intelligence collection auxiliary ship" armed with two .50-caliber machine guns—was boarded about 25 miles off the North Korean shore.

North Korea, which claims territorial rights 12 miles out to sea, said the U.S. vessel was within North Korean waters and labeled this "provocation."

The incident took place shortly before midnight Washington time—about 1:45 p.m. Tuesday, Korean time.

President Johnson was awakened and told about the incident about 2 a.m. and about noon today the White House called the situation "very serious."

The Pueblo radioed that it was being forced to proceed to the North Korean port of Wonsan, and it was presumed that it was being held there.

The Pueblo radioed that it did not fire its weapons. There were unconfirmed reports, however, that there were some wounded aboard.

Word Came From Pyongyang Radio

First word from North Korea on the incident was a broadcast from Pyongyang Radio claiming that North Korea had captured "an armed spy boat of the U.S. imperialist aggressor force which intruded way into the territorial waters of the republic and was carrying out hostile activities."

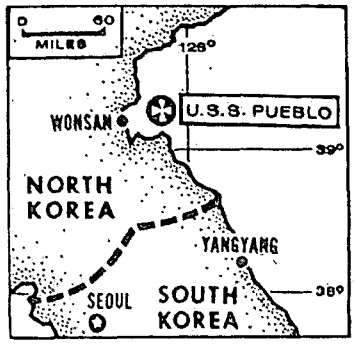
Coincidental with the capture of the Pueblo, Radio Pyongyang also broadcast claims that "armed guerrilla units" had attacked sentry posts of the U.S. 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea. There was no immediate confirmation here, but there were reports from Seoul of sporadic skirmishing in the northern part of South Korea.

Many details on the Pueblo's capture are lacking but, according to the Defense Department announcement, this is what happened:

At approximately 10 p.m. EST yesterday a North Korean patrol boat approached the Pueblo about 25 miles off the North Korean coast.

Using international flag signals, the North Korean boat

See SHIP, Page A-4



—United Press International

The (X) marks approximate location of the USS Pueblo when it was seized by North Korean patrol boats.

First Hill Reaction: Alarm, Indignation

By CECIL HOLLAND
Star Staff Writer

The seizure of the USS Pueblo by North Korea brought deep concern—and indignation—on Capitol Hill today.

Sen. Richard B. Russell, D-Ga., chairman of the Armed Services Committee, said, "It is a very serious breach of international law, which almost amounts to an act of war."

Russell said the details he has received are "scanty," but added that he did not know why the Pueblo did not defend itself or call for air support during the two hours or so that it was threatened by the North Korean patrol boats.

Sen. J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., a critic of the administration's Vietnam policies, said the incident was "very serious—if it was on the high seas."

Fulbright discussed the incident with reporters after the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which he heads, had received a briefing from Richard Helms, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, on overall intelligence matters.

Fulbright had a copy of the Defense Department statement, which said the ship was on the high seas when it was seized by North Korean forces.

He referred to this and under questioning by reporters said:

"I'm not in a position to underwrite what comes out of the Defense and State departments."

But he added that if the ship was on the high seas "we ought to request the return of the ship . . . we ought to protest."

Several senators, including Majority Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana, related the incident

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Ship Captured by Reds a Navy Vessel Doing a Navy Job

By ORR KELLY
Star Staff Writer

The intelligence gathering ship captured by North Korea today was a Navy ship with a Navy crew operating on a Navy mission.

Informed sources said the USS Pueblo was different from the USS Liberty which was attacked by Israeli forces off the Sinai Peninsula June 8.

Although the fact was never confirmed by the Pentagon, it was learned at that time that the Navy operated the Liberty as a floating electronic information-gathering vessel for the National Security Agency.

Pentagon sources declined to say just what the role of the Pueblo was off the North Korean shore, but there were indications that its assignment was to monitor North Korean radio traffic and radar operations for the Navy.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union have a number of electronic intelligence ships which perform a variety of roles.

The Soviet ships regularly operate near the bases for U.S. Polaris missile submarines and off Cape Kennedy, Fla. They also normally show up to keep an eye on U.S. and NATO maneuvers.

In the Gulf of Tonkin, Soviet electronic trawlers shadow U.S. aircraft carriers, operating just at the horizon, beyond the carriers' destroyer screen. Their major purpose is presumed to be to act as an early warning system for North Vietnamese anti-aircraft crews.

The U.S. electronic ships are used to help keep track of Soviet missile and space launches. Operating a short distance off-shore, they also are capable of listening in on radio traffic and plotting the location and power of shore-based radar installations.

The Russians have 26 large trawlers and the United States has five converted merchant ships for electronic surveillance. In addition, both nations have sizable numbers of smaller ships such as the Pueblo which are used for this purpose. Combat ships also carry a large array of similar electronic equipment.

The United States claims only a 3-mile limit off her shores, which means that Soviet vessels can operate just outside the 3-mile limits and still be in international limits.

The Russians, North Koreans and a number of other nations claim a 12-mile territorial limit. Chile claims a 200-mile limit and has taken action against U.S. fishing boats operating within that area.

SHIP

N. Koreans Seize U.S. Vessel, 83 Men

Continued From Page A-1

asked the Pueblo to identify its nationality. The Pueblo identified itself as a U.S. ship.

Continuing to use flag signals, the patrol boat said "Heave to, or I will open fire on you."

The Pueblo replied: "I am in international waters."

The patrol boat circled the Pueblo.

About an hour later, three additional patrol craft appeared.

One of them ordered: "Follow in my wake; I have a pilot aboard."

The four ships closed in on the Pueblo, taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter.

Red Planes Overhead

Two MIG aircraft were also sighted by the Pueblo's crew circling off the starboard bow.

One of the patrol craft began backing toward the bow of the Pueblo with fenders rigged. An armed boarding party was standing on the bow.

The Pueblo radioed at 11:45 p.m. EST that she was being boarded by North Koreans, the Defense Department said.

At 12:10 a.m. EST today the Pueblo reported that she had been requested to follow the North Korean ship into Wonsan and that she had not used any weapons.

The final message from the Pueblo was sent at 12:32 a.m. It reported that it had come to "all stop" and that it was "going off the air."

Exact Location Given

The Pueblo had reported that the boarding took place at 127 degrees, 54.3 minutes east longitude; 39 degrees, 25 minutes north latitude.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk called it a "matter of utmost gravity."

At the United Nations, U.S. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg "expressed concern" to U.N. Secretary-General U Thant but said he did not ask for any U.N. help in getting the vessel released.

The Pueblo has a complement of 83 men, including six officers, 75 enlisted men and two civilians.

It is designated as the AGR-2 and is described as a modified light cargo ship (AKL). The Pueblo is 179 feet long and 33 feet wide with a displacement of 906 tons. It has a 10.2 foot draft. Its maximum speed is 12.2 knots.

Nebraskan Is Skipper

The skipper of the Pueblo was identified by the Pentagon as Commander Lloyd Mark Bucher of Lincoln, Neb.

The vessel reports to the U.S. Navy—not to U.S. intelligence agencies.

Navy sources said the term "auxiliary" used in the ship's identification serves to indicate that it is an auxiliary to the fleet and not a combat ship.

It is said to have various electronic and oceanographic equipment aboard, presumably allowing it to monitor radio traffic as well as to take soundings on the possible presence of submarines and other ships in the area.

The incident—the gravest sea confrontation since the Gulf of Tonkin attacks in August 1964—is the latest in a series of provocations from North Korea over the past year.

Just a day before, a band of North Koreans sneaked into Seoul and apparently tried to storm the Blue House, the home of the South Korean chief of state, but were detected and driven off in a gun battle.

There is no solid information on why the North Koreans have decided to increase the tempo of their activity after years of generally quiet adherence to the 1953 armistice.

North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung, however, has constantly called for broad international support for North Vietnam, and it could be that this is a diversionary effort to try and weaken the U.S. effort in Vietnam.

The North Koreans are presumably embarrassed by the fact that South Korea has contributed two divisions to the allied effort in Vietnam while they have done nothing even comparable. The North Koreans are said to have trained some North Vietnamese pilots and supplied some aircraft.

A Militant Broadcast

The North Korean broadcast was latent with militant language.

It claimed that the South Korean government was beset by the revolt from the "patriotic South Korean people." This has been a standard excuse from North Korea whenever some of their infiltrators are captured.

The broadcast linked the capture of the vessel with the attempt by North Korean agents to assassinate President Park.

"The U.S. imperialist aggressor force — beginning to go wild at the moment the fierce surprise attack was launched at the heart of Seoul—fired thousands of rounds of small arms and artillery fire into our area last night, while on the sea they sent an armed spy vessel of the U.S. forces to intrude into waters off Wonsan and perpetrate serious provocation.

"What a brazen-faced desperate death-bed kick this is! Our naval vessels engaged in patrol duty on the spot captured the armed vessel of the U.S. imperialist aggressor force and the entire crew, resolutely defying the counterattack," the broadcast said.

Using words in the style of Red Chinese leader Mao Tse-tung, the broadcast said that U.S. and South Korean forces "can never suppress the anti-U.S. anti-government struggle of the patriotic South Korean people which is forcefully spreading like a prairie fire."

Memories of June 8

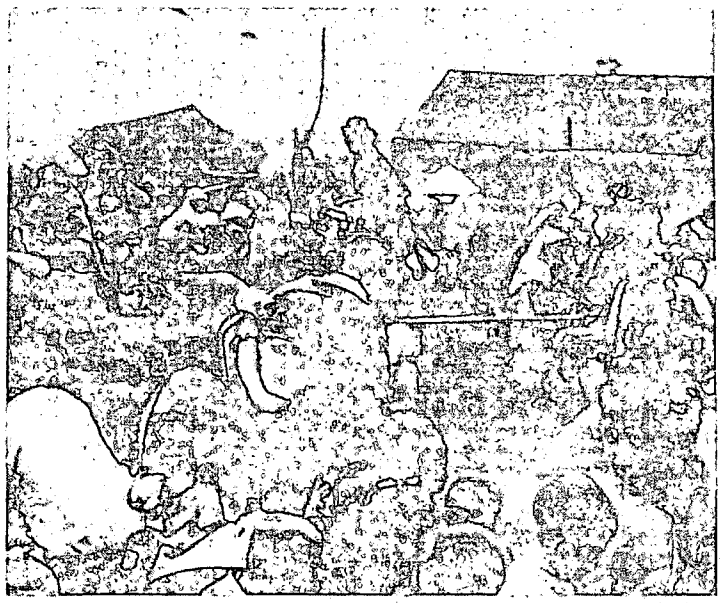
In a way, today's incident brought memories of another crisis, when another U.S. ship, the Liberty, was attacked by Israeli planes and torpedo boats in the Mediterranean last June 8—during the Arab-Israeli war—and 34 Americans were killed and over 100 others injured.

The White House "hot line" to Moscow was used during that crisis.

The Liberty, a communications ship, was 15 miles north of the Sinai Peninsula, the Pentagon said, when the attack took place.

Israel later offered to make amends for the "tragic incident," in which the Israelis claimed no flag was being flown by the vessel.

The Defense Department shortly after the incident said that the U.S. could not accept an "attack upon a clearly marked noncombatant U.S. naval ship in international waters as 'plausible' under any circumstances whatsoever."



—Associated Press

South Vietnamese civilians awaiting evcuation at an airstrip outside the town of Khe Sanh scatter in terror as the North Vietnamese lob mortar shells into the area.

VIETNAM

More GIs Are Rushed To Embattled Sector

Continued From Page A-1

from the Khe Sanh base that U.S. Marine commanders feared the small allied force in the town of Khe Sanh could not hold out against another North Vietnamese attack. That apparently was also the reason for the withdrawal from Huong Hoa.

The U.S. Command said it had received no report of any significant action at Khe Sanh today, but the Marine observation post on Hill 861, one of three strategic peaks overlooking the northwest approaches to South Vietnam, had come under light sporadic shelling.

Meanwhile, massive U.S. air power kept up the pressure on North Vietnamese buildup areas threatening the valley. More than 200 American bombers, including B52 strategic bombers, dropped an estimated 1,000 tons of explosives on suspected Communist gun positions, troop concentrations and infiltration routes in the last 24 hours.

Some of the targets were only a mile from the Laotian border, a staging area for the North Vietnamese 325C Division whose units have been shelling and attacking allied positions in the valley.

The air strikes cost another American plane, the second in two days in support of Khe Sanh and the 228th downed in combat in South Vietnam. A Marine F4 Phantom dive-bombing Communist positions was brought down yesterday by ground fire, but the two crewmen parachuted and were quickly rescued with only minor injuries.

The North Vietnamese have also killed 20 Marines and wounded 84 in attacks since Saturday around Khe Sanh, destroyed three helicopters and damaged several others. But the U.S. Command says at least 146 of the enemy have been killed.

Meanwhile, at the eastern end of the demilitarized zone near the allied anchor at Gio Linh, a South Vietnamese task force sweeping along the coast reported killing 83 North Vietnamese troops and capturing four prisoners in a one-hour fight. Government casualties were reported light.

Transfer of a brigade of the 1st Air Cavalry Division to the Hue-Phu Bai area boosts allied strength to about 50,000 men — 60 percent of the Americans — in South Vietnam's two northern-most provinces, Quang Tri and Thua Thien.

NORTH KOREANS STEPPED UP RAIDS IN SOUTH DURING 1967

North Korea vastly increased its guerrilla activities against South Korea last year.

A report made on Nov. 2, 1967, to the United Nations by Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg said that for the first 10 months of 1967 there had been a total of 543 incidents—in contrast to 50 incidents in 1966.

Goldberg, speaking for the U.N. Command, said that incidents were caused by small groups of six to nine men up to about 60.

Most of the infiltration attempts were over land but there were also several landings from the sea, Goldberg said.

In general, the North Korean agents set ambushes, laid mines, performed raids and engaged in other subversive activities, Goldberg said.

These were all in violation of the July 27, 1953, military armistice agreement Goldberg said.

Goldberg complained that the Military Armistice Commission has not functioned properly because "the North Korean senior member consistently disavows any responsibility for the violations of the armistice agreement, even when confronted with incontestable evidence to the contrary."

REACTION

Congress Indignant At Seizure of Ship

Continued From Page A-1

to this country's involvement in the Vietnam war.

"Incidents of this kind, unfortunately, are to be expected in areas where such uncertain conditions exist," Mansfield said.

The question immediately arose at the Capitol on the long-range effect of the North Korean action in view of the commitments in South Vietnam.

On this point Russell said:

"While we are rather widely spread all over the world, I am sure that we will be able to fulfill our commitments in Vietnam and maintain our position in Korea."

Russell instructed the staff of the Armed Services Committee to obtain all facts on the Pueblo as quickly as possible.

"We Got Caught"

In his first comment in response to questions, Fulbright said:

"We got caught. This, as you know, was an intelligence-gathering ship."

He recalled that a similar intelligence ship was attacked last summer and nearly sunk off the Israeli coast. Asked if this country was inviting dangers of this kind, Fulbright said the operation of such ships results in "exposure to incidents of this kind."

House Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford said, "the United States government should demand that North Korea release the Pueblo forthwith. If the vessel was cruising in international waters, as was apparently the case, there is no justification whatever for the action taken by the North Koreans."

'Flexing Muscles'

Sen. Stuart Symington, D-Mo., said there was "no reason" the ship should have been attacked in international waters.

He commented that for a long time the degree of commitment by the United States in Vietnam could only result in other countries' "flexing their muscles." He said the North Koreans have sought to exert pressure through "planned, calculated efforts."

Rep. William Henry Bates, R-Mass., top-ranking Republican on the House Armed Services Committee, said the seizure "seems to have been a dastardly act of piracy." He called on President Johnson in any event to "take whatever action is necessary to see that the ship is returned to us."

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JAN 68 STAR - 28 Jan 68

Intelligence Collection Now Routine

By FRED S. HOFFMAN
Associated Press Military Writer

Capture of the Pueblo by the North Koreans — and the Pentagon's acknowledgement the ship was a Navy intelligence vessel — lifts the official lid on worldwide electronic spying by the major powers.

It marks a drastic change from the Pentagon's insistence that the Liberty, a spy ship shot up by the Israelis off Egypt last June, was a "technical research ship."

"Intelligence collection by naval vessels is a routine activity among major powers," a defense official said Tuesday, indicating a more relaxed attitude toward suggestions the United States engages in this kind of activity.

"It is common knowledge that for a number of years intelligence collecting ships have followed U.S. fleet activities in various parts of the world," he added. The official obviously was alluding to the Soviet Union's terrier-like electronic eavesdropping vessels which show up wherever U.S. fleets are manuevering and near important Polaris submarine and other bases.

Such ships, in the guise of fishing trawlers, are "in fact positioned in international waters off the shores of the United States and other nations right now," this official said.

The U.S. intelligence vessels — which listen in on the radio traffic of other countries, spot radar sites and gather information to permit jamming them — and the Soviet Union's deep sea intelligence ships are parts of an extensive electronic intelligence system which has grown up in the Cold War years.

There are spy-in-the-sky satellites, both Soviet and American, whirling about the earth with almost unbelievably accurate cameras and "ferret" listening devices for eavesdropping on radio communications.

There are unmanned drones with sensitive information-gathering equipment. There are destroyers carrying "black boxes" which slip close to hostile shores to intercept radio talk, record coded messages and pick up other information. One of the two U.S. destroyers involved in the historic Tonkin Gulf attack by North Vietnamese patrol boats in August 1964 reportedly had been on such a mission.

The United States and Soviet Union, say nothing about what they know of the other side's electronic snooping from space.

But the U.S. Navy complains out loud about the operations of the Soviet "trawlers," some of which get into the flow of fleet traffic and sometimes interfere with carrier and other operations.

Members of Congress also have expressed alarm about increasingly active Soviet naval snooping.

Soviet trawlers have been reported standing off Polaris submarine bases at Holy Loch, Scotland, at Rota, Spain, Guam, and Charleston, S.C.

The Red trawlers monitored U.S. nuclear weapons tests in the Pacific in 1962.

U.S. vessels have taken positions in the Pacific to observe the re-entry and splashdown of Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles fired into the mid-Pacific.

A Soviet intelligence-gathering trawler, the Anemometer, collided with a U.S. intelligence ship, the Banner, in the Sea of Japan in June 1966.

The 935-ton Pueblo is one of three of her class, all converted light cargo vessels.

She has about eight whip antennae and two heavy masts hung with special electronic gear.

The Pueblo engages in hydrographic surveys as well as electronic intelligence, dropping devices into the water to measure its temperature at various levels, its salinity and its density. All these factors are important in antisubmarine warfare work because they affect the penetration of sonar beams.

All told, there are about a dozen clearly identifiable intelligence-type ships in the U.S. Navy, along with about 15 oceanographic survey ships which may well serve an intelligence function also.

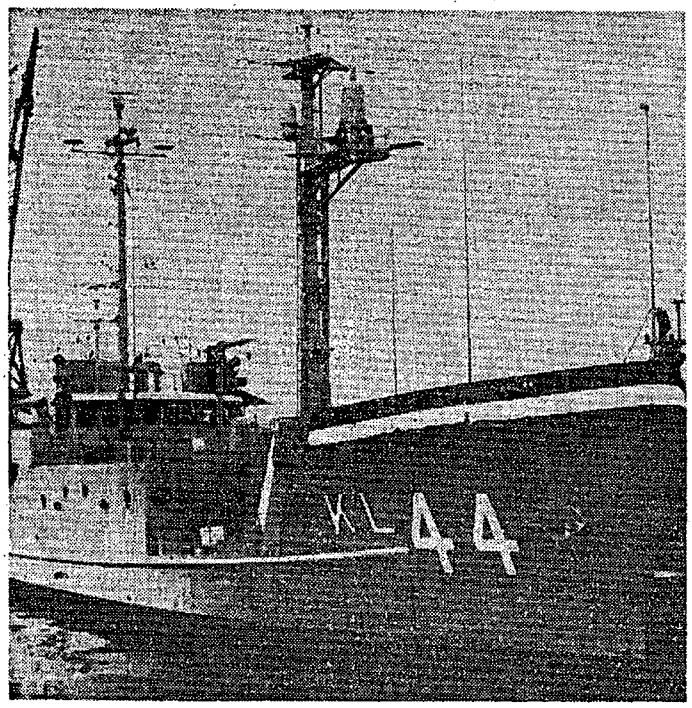
Then there are the destroyers and other surface craft which can be equipped with electronics sensors as needed.

The Liberty, at 11,000 tons, was a bigger and more sophisticated intelligence vessel.

Among other things, the Liberty was equipped with a "big ear" dish-type detector that could monitor communications more than 100 miles distant.

There are five vessels in the Liberty class with crews of nearly 300 men each.

There were reports the Liberty was operated by the Navy for the super-secret National Security Agency, whose mission is to crack the codes of foreign countries and to pick up and analyse foreign radio communications for us."



A photo of the Pueblo taken when it was an Army supply ship. Its number was changed when it became a Navy ship last July.

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Index is on Page 2

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The WASHINGTON DAILY News

CITY EDITION THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1968

1013 13th St., N.W. (20005) DI. 7-7777
47th Year—No. 63

Second Class Postage at Washington, D. C.
Published Daily Except Sunday

Weather
Cloudy, cold, high 30s, low near 20. Tomorrow, mostly sunny, warmer.
Today at:
8 a. m. 26
9 a. m. 27

7¢

Enterprise Leads Missile Ships

BIG U.S. NAVY FORCE STANDS OFF N. KOREA

(Page 2)

N. Viets Send Armored Vehicles to Khe Sanh

(Page 3)

Inside The News

- A pleasant story about a Government chauffeur who came up with a helpful idea and won an award for it is John Cramer's special today. Page 2.
- There was a way-out meeting of "hippie" and "straight" cultures, way out in Georgetown last night to ponder allegations of police harassment of the Flower Children. Page 5.
- Our Latin American affairs reporter, Virginia Prewett, has a horrifying report of slum clearance in Haiti, where "Lifetime President" Duvalier dispossessed a whole waterfront settlement with bulldozers, gasoline and rifles — without advance notice. Page 7.
- The "hard line" on the Vietnam war which was expressed in the Republicans' televised reply to President Johnson's "State of the Union" has stirred up some dissent. Page 7.
- Food Editor Marion Burros has detailed information about what goes on in the kitchen of Government House, in Annapolis — what Gov. Agnew likes to eat, etc. Page 25.
- Speculation in the stock market is "at fever pitch," says correspondent Robert Dietsch, and the SEC is keeping an eagle eye on the operations. Page 38.

Cmdr. Arnheiter, at Ease

—UPI Photo

Lt. Comdr. Marcus Aurelius Arnheiter is the center figure in a case which has been referred to as the first mutiny in U.S. Navy history. He was removed from command as a result of complaints by his subordinate officers, and he's been fighting the Establishment ever since. Here, he's shown in his San Rafael, Calif., home with two of his five children, 2-year-old twins Kimberly (left) and Kathy.

Jim Lucas' Report Begins on Page 3

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Warships Led by Giant Carrier

Task Force Off Korea Coast

SEOUL, Jan. 25 (UPI) — A powerful American task force led by the nuclear powered giant aircraft carrier Enterprise sailed today onto station 200 miles off the North Korean coast, military reports said.

The Enterprise, the nuclear powered frigate Truxton, the frigate Halsey and two or three other destroyers were reported to have moved into the waters off the Korean east coast in a show of force following the North Korean seizure of the USS Pueblo and its 83-man crew.

The 75,700-ton Enterprise, world's largest warship carrying up to 100 jet fighter-bombers, the Truxton and the Halsey are all armed with guided missiles, mainly for anti-aircraft use. But the Terrier missiles also can hit shore targets.

They steamed into the waters across the horizon from the North Korean port of Wonsan from Sasebo, Japan. The carrier had left the port bound for Vietnam waters. The Tuesday hijacking of the Pueblo apparently changed its course.

ALERTED

On shore two American divisions and half a million South Korean troops were reported on higher than usual alert along the North-South Korean truce line. U.S. troops were reported to have killed two communist infiltrators in at least two brief fights today.

In Seoul, South Korea's Foreign Minister Chai Kyu-Han warned North Korea against more "barbaric acts." A top Korean army general told newsmen his troops strongly favor action against North Korea.

The South Korean army was put on a "state of readiness." More South Korean patrol boats were reported put out to sea along the nation's east and west coasts. Reinforcements were reported sent to the border.

In Tokyo, Japanese officials quoted U. Alexis Johnson, the American ambassador, as saying the Enterprise was sailing "on seas south of the 38th Parallel" which forms the North-South Korea border.

It marked the first official word on the whereabouts of the carrier since it left Japan.

POTS ASSASSINS

Choi Kyu-Han told newsmen South Korea will not "look idly on North Korea's barbaric acts of aggression indefinitely." He referred mainly to the Pueblo seizure but Sunday's vain attempt by 31 North Korean infiltrators to assassinate President Park Chung Hee.

In other developments:

• A North Korean radio broadcast said Cmdr. Lloyd Mark Bucher, captain of the hijacked Pueblo, admitted his vessel was carrying out espionage work inside North Korean waters for the CIA.

• It appeared Cmdr. Bucher and his crew may have been able to destroy some of the top-secret electronic and communications gear aboard Pueblo before the North Koreans managed to board the intelligence vessel. For the first time yesterday, Defense officials revealed that Cmdr. Bucher had messaged, presumably while his ship was being boarded, that he was destroying the equipment.

—UPI Photo

When Vincenzo Strano, of Hartford, Conn., learned his younger son, Seaman Angelo Strano, 21 (right) was on the captured Pueblo, he petitioned the Army to return his other son, James, 19, left, from Vietnam. He learned, after his petition, that James had been killed in Vietnam, where he'd been serving since October.

South Korean troops investigate a manhole in Seoul during a search for North Korean infiltrators. ROK troops have killed eight more infiltrators whose mission was to assassinate President Park Chung Hee, bringing to 13 the number of assassins slain.

—UPI Photo

Congressmen Urged Not to Lose Their 'Cool'

Hill Cautioned on Pueblo

By DAN THOMASSON
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

The Johnson Administration today was urging on Congress the same advice Secretary of State Dean Rusk gave North Korea following the capture of the USS Pueblo — "cool it."

This note of caution — delivered to congressional foreign policy leaders at White House and Capitol Hill briefings — is aimed at dampening angry public reaction against North Korea. The Administration fears public clamor could help back it into a situation where a military confrontation is inevitable.

And the Administration, at this point, does not regard the Pueblo incident as a challenge to war. While it is not minimizing the gravity of the situation, it is determined to pursue a number of diplomatic alternatives before taking major military action.

WILL CONTINUE

Determination to continue diplomatic efforts comes despite Russia's refusal to co-operate in helping win the release of the intelligence ship and its 83-man crew and despite an initial rebuff from North Korean representatives of the Military Armistice Commission at Panmunjom.

A State Department spokesman said "we hope" this is not Russia's or North Korea's final answer. He said the Russians' failure to co-operate initially does not end U.S. attempts to use Moscow as "an appropriate channel" to North Korea.

Mr. Rusk told a closed-door meeting of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, however, that the U.S. will not let the situation drag on indefinitely and that the North Koreans are aware of this.

And Mr. Rusk, Committee sources said, ended speculation as to whether, in fact, the Pueblo might have been inside North Korea's territorial waters.

The facts, he said clearly are in the U.S. favor.

Phil G. Goulding, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, backed this up last night by reporting the co-ordinates radioed by the Pueblo are exactly the same as those fixed by North Korea when it began tracking the ship on radar before apprehending it.

Mr. Goulding said this information was obtained thru "intelligence sources" monitoring North Korean internal communications. The fix placed the Pueblo 25 miles from the North Korean mainland and 16 miles from the offshore islands. North Korea claims a 12-mile territorial limit.

A 'TRAVESTY'

Mr. Goulding also rejected as a "travesty" an alleged confession by the Pueblo's skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, that he was spying for the CIA.

"The style and wording of the document provide unmistakable evidence in themselves that this was not written or prepared by an American," Mr. Goulding said.

The President, in addition to sending top officials to Congress, discussed the ship's capture with his closest advisers. The atmosphere of the meetings was reported to be calm but concerned.

There seemed to be some indication North Korea might be preparing to release the Pueblo's crew while keeping the ship. This was seen in remarks by North Korean diplomatic representatives who said the Pueblo "will remain in our hands" but said nothing about the crew.

High Administration sources said there is "plenty of room to maneuver" before any military action against North Korea may be required.

9 TO 4:30

Chauffeur Drove His Point Home

By JOHN CRAMER

I'm not very big these days on reporting Federal employe economy suggestions — but this one intrigues me.

James Crudup is a Transportation Department chauffeur. Airplanes are not in his line of duty — tho in his off hours, he's an airplane buff.

Anyway, when assigned recently to drive his boss to National Airport, he noticed something — and made a suggestion. He noticed metal clamps on the auxiliary power units used to start aircraft at National and other airports thru-out the country. He suggested that plastic clamps would be safer . . . less apt to cut the cables and produce short circuits.

So FAA has adopted his suggestion . . . given him a cash award . . . and referred his idea to Army, Navy, Air Force and other major aircraft users. If they, too, adopt it, he'll be in line for additional awards.

Trashmen's Gripe

garbage and trash collectors that they have a gripe about a newly-issued regulation controlling their overtime pay.

It says:

• In the event of a truck breakdown, the assigned crew must continue work until its entire route has been collected.

• When breakdown time is less than 50 minutes, there'll be no overtime pay. (By law, agencies have discretion to deny premium pay for overtime less than an hour).

• That, in no case, will "compulsory overtime" exceed two hours.

• That refusal to work overtime will be cause for disciplinary action.

I think that can be read to say that employes can be required, under threat of disciplinary penalty, to work three or four or five hours of overtime — but with premium pay only two hours. If the Sanitation Department has something else in mind, let it say it.

(Continued on Page 68)

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'HEY, WHA[redacted] DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DO[redacted]G?'

JAN 68

Getting the Pueblo Back

THE ship and its 83-man crew — some of them wounded — must be released without further delay.

It was Monday noon Korean time that the USS Pueblo was captured by a gang-up of North Korean patrol boats and forced into Wonsan harbor. All right, the communists have had their fun, tweaked Uncle Sam's nose, made their propaganda coup. Now it's high time they gave the ship back.

There's a hint the North Koreans know they have to do so. It lies in the crude, hastily drafted "confession" attributed to Cmdr. Bucher, the Pueblo's skipper. "... Our parents and wives and children at home are anxiously waiting for us to return home in safe (*sic*)... We only hope ... that we will be forgiven leniently ..."

North Korea's smug rejection of the U.S. demand to return the ship, made at a Panmunjom armistice meeting yesterday indicates, however, the Pyongyang pirates want to gamble a bit and string us along. There's no comfort, either, in word that the Russians rebuffed Washington's appeal to intervene. We still hope the Russians, recalling the crises over Berlin and Cuba, would pass on the word that when the Americans get riled, it doesn't pay to fool around too long.

But what should the Johnson Administration do? It should make an all-out effort thru all available channels to get the Pueblo back by diplomatic means — before resort to force.

Besides seeking intervention of friendly governments, neutrals and communists with whom we are on speaking terms, the U.S. should request an urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council. We should present a two-part plan: (1) North Korea must release the Pueblo immediately, and (2) the U.S. will participate in an impartial investigation of the whole episode, and let the facts come out as they will.

The most important objective is to defuse this explosive crisis by freeing the ship and its crew — and gather all the facts later, after the crisis has cooled. This means the Security Council must not just meet and palaver as it did in last year's Middle East crisis, but must quickly get results — the return of the Pueblo.

Perhaps the UN would prove incapable of getting action within a reasonable time. But at least we owe it to the world community and to our own principles as Americans to try the peaceable approach first.

But let the North Koreans mark it well: grabbing off the tiny USS Pueblo may have been easy, but the carrier task force, including the mighty USS Enterprise, has not moved into the Sea of Japan without purpose.

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Home Towns Withheld

Wash Dc Times 25/1/68

Defense Dept. Lists Crew of Pueblo

The Defense Department yesterday named all but two of the 83 men aboard the hijacked intelligence ship USS Pueblo, but withheld their home towns.

The department said the men aboard the ship were being given the same consideration as those captured or missing in Vietnam. Hometowns and other details were withheld because they might be of use to their captors.

One man was withheld because his nearest relatives could not be located, and another was not reported because his next-of-kin requested the omission. The others were:

Stewart Crogello P. Abelon, Stewart Rizalino L. Alvague, Communications Technician Wayne D. Anderson, Fireman Richard E. Arnold, Communications Technician Charles W. Aling, Communications Technician Don Earl Bailey, hospital corpsman Herman T. Baldridge, Engineman Richard I. Bame, seaman Peter M. Bondera, Communications Technicial Michael Thomas Barrett, Boatswain Mate Ronald L.Berens, fireman Howard E. Bland, and engineman Rushel J. Blansett.

Communications Technician Ralph D. Bouden, Communications Technician Paul David Brushnahan, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, Boatswain Mate Willey C.Bussell, Yeoman Armando M. Canales, Marine Sgt. Robert J. Chicoa, Radioman Charles Henry Crandell Jr., Communications Technician Bradley R. Crowe, Communications Technician Rodney H. Duke, Seaman Stephen P. Ellis, Communications Electrician Victor D. Escamilla, Storekeeper Policarpo P. Garcia, Communications Technician Francis John Ginther, Engineman Monroe O. Goldman.

Communications Technician John W. Grant, Electricians Mate Gerald William Hagenson, Marine Sgt. Roger J. Hammond, Lt. Stephen R. Harris, Ensign Timothy Lynn Harris, Radioman Lee Roy Hayes, Fireman John Charles Higgins Jr., Seaman Robert W. Hill Jr., Fireman Duane D. Hodges, Communications Technicial Sidney J. Karnes, Communications Technician James F. Kell, Communications Technician Earl M. Kisler, Boatswain Mate Morbert J. Klepac, W/O Gene H. Lacy, Communications Technician Anthony A. Lamantia, Communications Technician Peter M. Lagenberg, Quartermaster Charles B. Law Jr., Communications Technician James D. Layton, Signalman Wendell G. Leach.

Commissaryman Harry Lewis, Communications Technician Ralph McClintock, Photographers Mate Lawrence W. Mack, Seaman Roy J. Maggard, Seamans Apprentice Larry J. Marshall Fireman William Thomas Massie, Fireman John Arthur Mitchell, Lt. Edward R. Murphey, Electricians Mate Clifford C. Nolte, Fireman Michael A. O'Bannon,

Communications Technician Donald R. Peppard, Seamans Apprentice Earl R. Phares, Quartermaster Alvin H. Plucker, Commissaryman Ralph E. Reed, Seaman Dale E. Rigby, Communications Technician David Lee Ritter, Communications Technician Steven J. Robin, Seaman Recruit Richard J. Regala, Seaman Recruit Ramon Rosales, Seaman Edward S. Russell, Engineman William D. Scarborough, Lt. (JG) Frederick C. Schumacher, Communications Technician James A. Shepard, Communications Technician John Allen Shilling, Seamans Apprentice John Robert Singleton, Fireman Norman W. Spear, Communications Technician Charles R. Sterling.

Communications Technician Angelo S. Strano, Fireman Lawrence E. Strickland, Gunners Mate Kenneth R. Wadley, Fireman Steven E. Woelk, Communications Technician Elton A. Wood, Engineman Darrel D. Wright and civilians Harry R. Iredale an Dunnie Richard Tuck Jr.

The civilians are oceanographers.

(UP)

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By Wally McNamee—The Washington Post

U.N. Ambassador Goldberg with President Johnson.

Wash Post 26/1/68

Pueblo's Orders Restricted Gunfire

The standing instructions for the USS Pueblo were to avoid an international incident by moving out of the area if harassed rather than use her guns, it was learned yesterday.

The ship's three .50-caliber machine guns were to be kept under canvas unless the survival of the ship depended on them.

These rules for ferret, or spy, ships like the Pueblo may explain why her skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, waited until it was too late to resist the North Korean boarding Monday night.

Reliable sources said last night that North Koreans boarded the Pueblo without one shot being fired by the Americans. The injuries to four Pueblo crewmen, it was learned authoritatively, came from the explosions Bucher set off to destroy the ship's secret spy equipment.

Backed by Superiors

The very topside of the Navy is standing behind Bucher on the basis of facts on hand so far. Top officers regard Bucher's decisions as consistent with his instructions to avoid trouble.

Mrs. Rose Bucher, wife of the Pueblo skipper, said in an interview last night that Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, Chief of Naval Operations, had expressed the Navy support of her husband's decisions in a telephone call yesterday.

The Pueblo is not a fighting ship, but a passive one with the job of eavesdropping on communications all around it. Her crew are electronic specialists rather than experienced gunners used to rushing to battle stations.

Navy officers reason that Bucher saw the four North Korean patrol boats as another in a long series of harassing

See BUCHER, A11, Col. 6

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BUCHER—From Page A1

Pueblo's Orders Restricted Gunfire

actions. Even after the North Koreans forced their way aboard at gunpoint, Bucher could have reasoned this was a temporary tweaking of the United States, rather than a plan to capture the ship.

There are no sea cocks on the Pueblo that could have been opened to let enough water into the hull to sink the ship. And sources said such ships do not ordinarily carry explosives other than the small ones needed to destroy spy equipment and codes.

This would seem to rule out any chance of Bucher scuttling his ship. And if he did so, the lives of his 82 crewmen could have been lost—either through freezing in the cold water where the Pueblo lay or from the North Koreans opening fire on them.

Bucher's only chance, then, seemed to be help from other U.S. ships or planes. This did not arrive from the time Bucher sent out his call about midnight Monday (EST) until the undisclosed time—at least two hours later — when the Pueblo was taken into the North Korean port of Wonsan.

It was also learned yesterday that the Pueblo lay dead in the water with water collection bottles strung over the side when first accosted by the North Koreans. The water samples were part of the Pueblo's oceanagraphic research.

Richard Halloran, Washington Post correspondent in Seoul, said sources there claimed the Pueblo's crew was taken off the ship shortly after capture. The Pueblo's officers, he said, then were flown to Pyongyang but the enlisted men presumably were kept in Wonsan.

The Pueblo's capture had all the earmarks of a long-planned operation, Halloran wrote.

The North Korean Defense Minister reportedly flew to Wonsan to inspect the ferret ship.

The fate of Bucher was still not known here last night. North Korea's radio sent out a broadcast of Bucher's alleged confession.

The voice, alleged to be Bucher's, said "I and my crew have perpetrated such a grave criminal act, but our parents and wives and children at home are anxiously waiting for us to return in safety.

"Therefore," the broadcast continued, "we only hope, and it is the greatest desire of myself and all my crew, that we will be forgiven leniently by the government of the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea."

In San Diego, Bucher's wife said after hearing a recording of the broadcast: "That is not my husband's voice. It does not sound in any remote way like my husband. The inflections and sound were not his."

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Classified advertising starts on Page 53

The WASHINGTON DAILY News

7 CENTS — WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1968

1013 13th St., N.W. (20005) DI. 7-7777
47th Year—No. 67

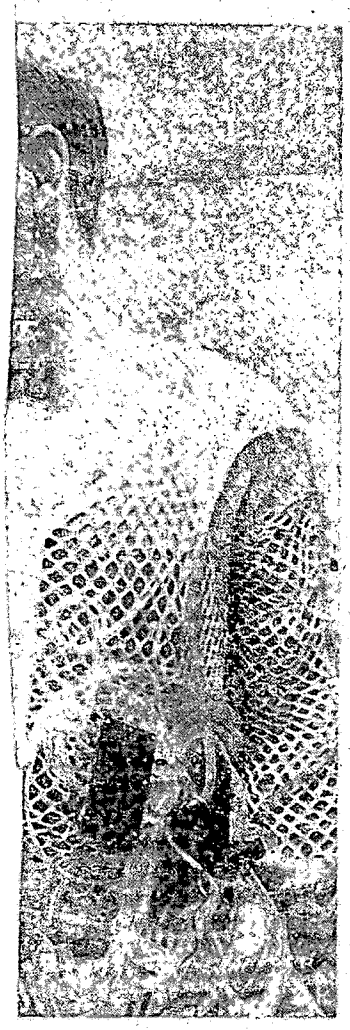
Second Class Postage at Washington, D. C.
Published Daily Except Sunday

Weather
Light snow, one to two inches; high in 30s. Snow ending tonight, low in 20s tonight.
Today at
9 a. m. 30
10 a. m. 26
11 a. m. 29
12 Noon 33

GREATER Washington Edition

N. KOREA DEFIES U. S.

Admiral Told: 'Ship Will Remain in Our Hands'



—UPI photo

king at is Glenn L. Merrill testing ilot cool. The suit uses its maze of erwear is being developed by the Minn., for the Navy's Aerospace

Red Patrols' Seizure of 'Pueblo' Is Linked to War in Vietnam

(Stories on Pages 2 and 3)

Inside The News

- The District's postmaster has backed down a little from his order blacklisting six Washington doctors in his crackdown on sick leave abuses, John Cramer reports. Page 2.
- Searchers found slight radioactivity at the place where a B-52 crashed with a load of H-bombs in Greenland, but no sign of the plane or the bombs. Page 7.
- A report from Cape Kennedy says some of our 16 scientist astronauts are unhappy with the space program and may quit. Page 7.
- The Viet Cong have released two captured American soldiers in northern South Vietnam. The communists have launched an artillery barrage against the bastion of Khe Sanh, near the DMZ. Four Red divisions are poised for their biggest drive yet. Stories on Page 7.
- Rep. Wilbur Mills, self-designated "attorney for the taxpayers," notified the Administration it must cut spending if it wants higher income taxes. Page 12.
- Our Fashion Editor, Nina Hyde, has her own list of Best Dressed Women and it's somewhat different from the usual because it's pretty Washington-oriented. Page 31.
- Maryland's Rep. Gilbert Gude is also a nurseryman (plants and things) and this sort of leads to Clare Crawford's story of how his office came to be infested with praying mantises. Page 34.
- The Redskins' Otto Graham admits "I'm talking trades," but other than that he has no comment about all the wheeling-dealing in advance of next Tuesday's player draft. Tome Yorke reports on Page 70.

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U. S. Mounts Show of Strength

Reds Vow to Keep Pueblo

PANMUNJON, Korea, Jan. 24 (UPI) — In a truce line confrontation, the United States today demanded North Korea return the hijacked USS Pueblo and its 83 men but the communist regime said it will keep the intelligence ship.

"The ship will remain in our hands," Maj. Gen. Pak Chung Kuk of North Korea told U. S. Rear Admiral John V. Smith at a face-to-face meeting of the Korean Armistice Truce Commission. Gen. Pak also said several Americans were "killed and wounded" in yesterday's ship capture.

Admiral Smith accused North Korea of launching a "campaign of provocation, sabotage and assassination." He said, "if the North Korean regime persists in this campaign, which can only endanger the peace of this area, the responsibility for the consequences will rest on the North Korea regime."

SHOW OF STRENGTH

The U. S. was mounting a naval show of strength in the waters off North Korea to back up its demand for the return.

The nuclear powered aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, world's largest warship, was reported to have been diverted from Vietnam station to lead an American task force into the Sea of Japan.

Gen. Pak and Admiral Smith met at this truce village on the Korean dividing line.

Gen. Pak charged the Pueblo was captured in North Korean waters at 39.17 degrees north latitude and 127.46 degrees east longitude. According to the U. S. Navy, the ship was hijacked in the Japan Sea and forced into the North Korean port of Wonsan.

RESISTANCE CITED

Pyongyang Radio, the broadcasting voice of the North Korean capital, said the 83 American crewmen put up "arrogant resistance" before the vessel was boarded and seized. The broadcast said several Americans were killed or wounded and more than 80 "captured alive."

The North Koreans accused the vessel of "intolerable provocations" and said the Pueblo "illegally infiltrated (into North Korean waters) on an espionage mission." They said the ship fired on the patrol boats and when the boats returned the fire they "killed and wounded" several Americans.

The Navy said four American crewmen were injured, one critically, when the communist boats seized the Pueblo as two Mig Jet fighters circled overhead. The hijacking was said by the Pentagon to have occurred on the high seas in international waters, about 15 nautical miles from the North Korean coast.

The Navy insisted last night that at no point in the encounter did the Pueblo fire her two .50-caliber machine guns.

There was no indication from Pueblo's last radio messages how her crewmen were injured. The vessel made no mention of any gunfire.

Commander Lloyd M. Bucher, of the Pueblo, with his family—Mike, 13, left; Mrs. Bucher and Mark, 15. The photo was made last year when the Buchers visited Boys Town, Nebr., of which the Naval officer is a graduate.

—UPI Photos

This did not preclude a hand-to-hand struggle on the ship whenthe communists boarded her. There was also speculation that the crewmen may have been injured while attempting to destroy the secret electronic monitoring and communications gear crammed aboard the modified auxiliary cargo vessel.

The Navy said Pueblo's skipper, Idaho-born Cmdr. Lloyd Mark Bucher, 33, of San Diego, Calif., appealed for help only once — when his ship was actually boarded — indicating he was unaware the vessel was in serious trouble until the last minute.

By that time, the Navy said, it was too late to dispatch ships or planes to Pueblo's rescue.

"Time and the distance factors made it impossible to respond to the call that was made when the ship was being boarded," a spokesman said.

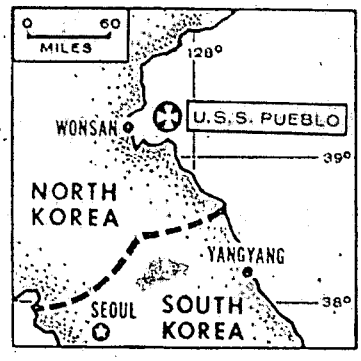
Adm. Smith demanded the North Koreans apologize.

He said, "the events of last year, and especially the last few days, have put a new complexion on the situation in Korea. The North Korean regime has embarked on a continuing campaign of provocation, sabotage and assassination in violation of the armistice agreement and international law."

PATTERN SEEN

He called the seizure of the Pueblo "part of a pattern of North Korean belligerance and aggressive actions which dangerously increased in this area. If they are persisted in, they will have the most serious consequences to the main task of the armistice and to the preservation of peace in Korea."

"Such hostile acts cannot be perpetuated with impunity," he warned.



Location given by the U.S. of the seizure.

President Johnson and his top military and diplomatic advisers were closely following developments in the first boarding and seizure of a sea-going American Naval vessel in more than a century. The President scheduled a meeting of the National Security Council at the White House today.

Outraged congressmen demanded prompt U.S. action to free the ship and her crew. Sen. Richard B. Russell, (D., Ga.), chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said the seizure amounted to "an act of war." Rep. William H. Bates, (Mass.), senior Republican on the House Armed Services committee, called it "a dastardly act of piracy."

The White House called it "a very serious situation," and Secretary of State Dean Rusk said it was "a matter of the utmost gravity."

Linked to Viet Pressure

Shipnaping Is Called Well-Planned

By R. H. BOYCE
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Administration sources voiced fears today that North Korea's seizure of the USS Pueblo and recent "drastic increases" in communist attacks on South Korea may be linked to the Vietnam War.

They speculated that the growing boldness of North Korean Communists is aimed at:

✓ Keeping U.S. and South Korean forces so occupied there that no more troops can be pulled out to fight in Vietnam, thus indirectly helping communist Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces. (Fifty thousand South Korean troops already are fighting in Vietnam.)

✓ Warning the U.S. that continued bombing of North Vietnam could bring intensified guerilla fighting in Korea and perhaps even another Vietnam-type war there.

INCIDENTS INCREASE

The sources pointed to a report of the United Nations command in Korea to the United Nations Security Council which showed that "significant incidents" of North Korean infiltration into South Korea, by both land and sea, had increased from only 50 in 1966 to 543 last year.

There were only 30 fire-fights between opposing forces in Korea in 1966 but there were 212 hot exchanges of fire in 1967, the report said. It added that the number of North Koreans killed in such fighting increased from 43 in 1966 to 224 in 1967, while the number of U.S. and South Korean troops killed jumped from 35 in 1966 to 122 in 1967.

Four South Korean civilians were killed by infiltrators in 1966 but 22 were killed in 1967, the report said.

VIOLATION

The report was transmitted to the Security Council by U.S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg, who charged that the "recent sharp increase in the scope and intensity of the North Korean military attacks and other armed activity in Korea was in violation of the Military Armistice Agreement signed July 27, 1953."

The report said North Korean "armed raiders" ranging from small groups of six or nine men up to a group of about 60 have attacked "in carefully planned and reconnoitered operations" and also have concealed "numerous mines" and used high-explosive charges to demolish buildings.

Nearly all the infiltrators were captured, killed or dispersed, the report said.

The abortive attempt Sunday by 31 North Koreans to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung-Hee was the latest in the growing number of raids — capped by the seizure of the Pueblo.

It is believed the Pueblo's capture was carefully planned and executed because the U.S. Navy "intelligence gathering" ship had been engaged in electronic eavesdropping off the North Korean coast for two weeks. The State Department insisted the ship was operating in international waters.

Military intelligence sources here said the planned nature of the North Korean capture of the Pueblo was borne out by the presence of four Red gunboats which encircled the ship while two communist mig fighter jets circled low overhead.

It was believed this display of superior North Korean firepower made the Pueblo reluctant to attempt a shoot-out with the enemy, altho several crewmen reportedly were wounded by gunfire. The Pueblo was armed only with two 50-caliber machine guns.

But no Washington official would offer an explanation of why no American help was forthcoming from U.S. naval or air facilities within range of the Pueblo.

Capture of the intelligence vessel by the communists was regarded as a major coup, since the ship was equipped with quantities of highly sophisticated electronic gear. There was speculation that the ship may have been singled out as a target because the North Koreans believed it had gathered valuable military information. (See also article on Page 43.)

9 to 4:30

JAN 68

Beall Backs Up a Little

By JOHN CRAMER

D.C. Postmaster Carlton Beall has retreated — somewhat — from his Jan. 15 order blacklisting six Washington doctors as part of his campaign against alleged abuse of sick leave by postal employes.

The original order, quoted in a memo summarizing Mr. Beall's Jan. 10 staff meeting, instructed four superintendents not to accept employe sick leave certificates from any of the six, all of whom were listed by name and address.

REVISED

Now, however, Mr. Beall has revised this to say that the final decision on questionable sick leave certificates will be left to the medical officer of the Post Office.

The original, first reported here Monday, said:

"There are some doctors in this city who will issue a sick certificate irregardless and we are forced not to recognize them. Therefore, all four superintendents will be furnished a list of these

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The Washington Daily News, Wednesday, January 24, 1968

JAN 68

Red Aim Seen Takeover of Peninsula

U.S. on Diplomatic Tip-Toe

The United States, confronted with the most perilous situation in Korea since the 1953 armistice, was moving quietly but forcefully thru diplomatic channels today to secure the return of the USS Pueblo and her crew.

Johnson administration officials said North Korea's seizure of the U. S. Navy intelligence vessel in international waters appeared to be one more "provocation" in a mounting series of communist actions aimed at eventually destroying the U. S.-backed government of South Korean President Park Chung Hee.

MANEUVER

They said the North Korean communists probably hoped that their action at sea, as well as their stepped up infiltration and terrorism in South Korea, also would help Hanoi by distracting American attention and resources.

But the primary objective of the Pueblo hijacking, in the view of officials here, was to press forward the campaign for the ultimate communization of the entire Korean peninsula.

The Russians, whose aid the United States has sought in this affair, had no editorial comment on it. On the basis of Soviet actions during the past few years it was assumed the Kremlin wanted to find a way to defuse the situation and divert the peril of a renewed Korean war without causing the North Korean communists to lose too much face in the process.

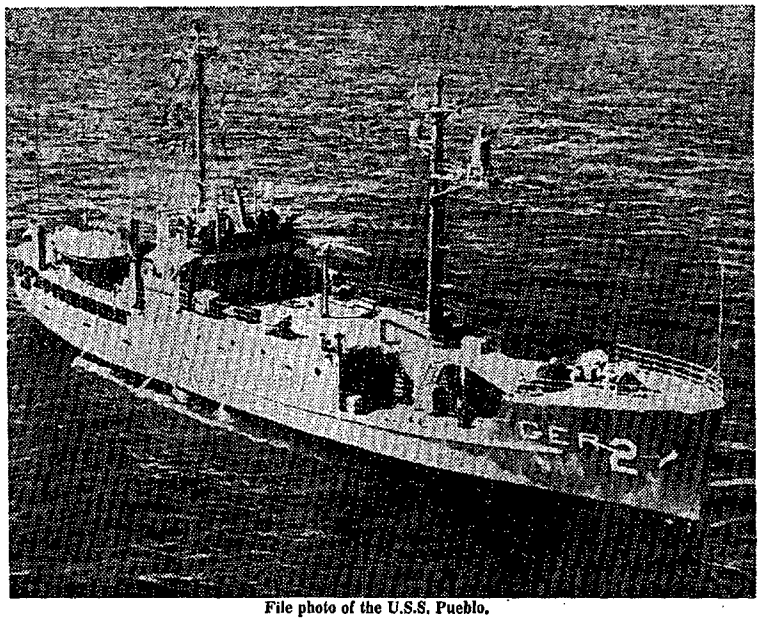
RENEWED WAR

No official would go so far as to predict that the Pueblo incident, along with the attempted assassination of President Park and other actions, would lead to a resumption of hostilities in Korea. But such a possibility could not be discounted entirely.

The official North Korean newspaper, Rodong Shinmoon, said Sunday that President Johnson's policies in Vietnam had created "a tense situation in which a war may break out at any moment . . . in our country."

On Jan. 9, about the time the Pueblo took up its station off Wonsan harbor, another North Korean newspaper, Minju Choson, said the United States was sending armed vessels along the country's east coast.

The North Koreans, in their broadcast announcement of the capture of a "spy ship" linked the affair directly to the mounting tension rising from a sharp increase in the number of military incidents between North and South in recent months. (UPI)



File photo of the U.S.S. Pueblo.

Distress Signal Late

Spy Ship's Role Foggy

By MIKE MILLER
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Mystery today shrouded the role and actions of the Navy's USS Pueblo, hijacked Monday night by communist North Korea on an intelligence mission off that country's coast.

After hours of officially imposed silence, many of the sporadic Pentagon disclosures on the incident served to heighten the mystery rather than solve it.

There were these questions:

✓ What exactly was the Pueblo doing in the Sea of Japan since it began its mission there Jan. 8?

Describing the vessel as an "intelligence gathering auxiliary ship," the Pentagon said it was under control of the Navy rather than any of the U.S. supersecret intelligence agencies.

✓ Why did the Pueblo hesitate so long before calling for help?

The vessel was first confronted by a North Korean patrol boat at 10 p.m. Monday and told by radio to "Heave to or I will open fire on you." The Pueblo skipper did not request help until she was boarded an hour and 45 minutes later, after the one patrol boat had been joined by three others and two MIGs circling overhead.

The Pentagon declined comment on whether any help was dispatched. It was probably too late.

✓ What happened in the 47 minutes from the time the ship was boarded until it sent its last message that its engines were at "all stop" and that it was "going off the air?" Did a fight ensue?

It could have. The Pueblo's crew of 83 was equipped with small arms and might have fought back before being overcome. A Navy spokesman said the Pueblo was taken forcibly and did not surrender. Nor did it ask for instructions while it remained in contact with "higher headquarters."

Altho Pueblo radioed that it didn't fire its two 50-caliber machine guns and there was no report of fire from the patrol boats before the boarding, the Pueblo skipper reported four men wounded, one critically.

✓ Where is the ship and what's going to happen to her?

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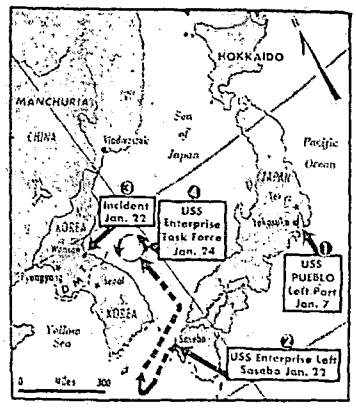

The Washington Post Jan. 23, 1968

Broken line shows course taken by the Enterprise. Course taken by the Pueblo from Japan is classified.

KOREA—*From Page A1*

North Koreans Claim U.S. Captain Confessed

written or prepared by any American." He continued:

"The major point which this propaganda utterance attempts to make is that the Pueblo had violated North Korean territorial waters and was, in fact, violating those territorial waters when the North Korean patrol craft appeared.

"This is absolutely untrue."

Goulding said the Pueblo reported her position at the time of her capture as 39:23 north and 127:55 east. As the ship was being seized, he added, the North Koreans placed it at 39:25 north and 127:58 east.

"These two reported positions are within a mile of one another and both show conclusively that the Pueblo was in international waters," Goulding continued.

Pentagon sources noted that the position given in Bucher's alleged confession was 39:17.4 north and 127:46.9 east. This position, unlike the one given earlier in a North Vietnamese ship-to-shore radio transmission which was monitored by U.S. listening stations, is inside Korean waters.

North Korea claims a frontier extending 12 miles out to sea.

"The Pueblo was under orders from the beginning of its mission to stay at least 13 miles from North Korean territory," Goulding said. "There is no evidence to suggest that these orders were disobeyed."

The Assistant Secretary said the claim that Bucher and his crew were working for the CIA was "typical of this propaganda sham . . .

"Commander Bucher is a naval officer, commanding a naval ship and performing a naval mission. He is not employed by the CIA and was promised nothing by the CIA. Nor were any members of his crew."

The Korean Central News Agency statement quoted Bucher as saying his ship had carried out numerous assignments for the CIA. For the voyage which ended in capture, his alleged confession continued, the vessel was disguised to look as if it was engaged in research on oceanic electronics.

Bucher reportedly said he entered North Korean waters from Soviet waters Jan. 16.

"My ship was on the utmost alert and observed and ascertained the depth of water, current, water temperature, sea basin, salt density and water transparency" at several points within the North Korean sea frontier, the confession attributed to Bucher said.

The Commander was quoted as saying that his ship also gathered information on military installations, industrial facilities, port traffic and the deployment of armed forces along the coast.

The Pueblo was 7.6 miles off the town of Rodo when North Korean patrol boats appeared, the account continued.

"We were on the alert instantly and tried to escape, firing at the navy patrol crafts . . ." Bucher allegedly said.

"But the situation became more dangerous for us and thus one of my men was killed, another heavily wounded and two others lightly wounded."

The Pentagon said Tuesday that four persons aboard the Pueblo had been wounded. One message from the ship was said to have indicated that one man's leg was blown off, but there were no further details.

The statement attributed to Bucher closed with a reference to the wives and children of the Pueblo's crew and how they were anxiously awaiting the sailors' safe return.

"We only hope, and it is the greatest desire of myself and all my crew, that we will be forgiven leniently by the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea," Bucher was said to have concluded.

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- JAN 68

President's Options Were Limited in Pueblo's Seizure

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Johnson's options in the Pueblo affair were constricted by two critical decisions made down the chain of command before the Chief Executive had even heard of the incident.

What is now known of the record goes to demonstrate once again how much a Commander-in-Chief is hemmed in by the actions of his subordinates.

These were the decisions involved:

News Analysis

1. The President was not told of the North Korean torpedo boat approach to the Pueblo or of its boarding until 2 a.m. Tuesday, Washington time, after the ship and its 83-man crew were securely in North Korean hands. By that time he was faced with an accomplished fact—the first hijacking of an American naval vessel by a foreign state in more than a century and a half.

2. The nuclear-powered carrier Enterprise and its accompanying vessels, which by chance had just left Sasebo, Japan, to return to duty off Vietnam, were turned about and headed toward the Sea of Japan opposite North Korea, again before Mr. Johnson was awakened. The President once more was faced with a fact—that American ships were heading toward North Korea in a show of force.

In the first instance, others made the fateful decision not to send aircraft to help the Pueblo, whether or not the captain had called for aid. Someone decided, without reference to the White House and apparently (although this is not yet certain) without reference to the Pentagon, to let the Pueblo's captain handle the torpedo boat problem.

That proved to be an irretrievable mistake that severely limited the President's ability to respond.

In the second instance, the President had no option open on whether to respond to the incident with a show of force. That decision was made down the line, apparently by CINCPAC, the joint command headquarters in Honolulu. Whether the Pentagon was even asked its advice is not yet clear. But certainly the President was not asked.

It may well be, of course, that Mr. Johnson, if he had been given the option, at once would have ordered the Enterprise and its naval train to head for North Korean waters. On the other hand he might have decided that to do so would be to overheat the already charged atmosphere and possibly limit diplomatic efforts to win release of ship and crew.

If further diplomatic efforts fail and with the naval force off North Korea, Mr. Johnson has the option now of using force in some form or of withdrawing the ships in the face of North Korean refusal to free the Pueblo.

The Pueblo case is not the first instance in which a President has found himself bound by what his subordinates have done.

President Eisenhower was boxed in by the mishandling of an inept cover story in the U-2 affair. President Kennedy, to some degree, was trapped in the Bay of Pigs debacle, something he did not let recur in the Cuban missile crisis. And President Johnson reacted, or, in the view of some over-reacted, to what he was told by the American ambassador in Santo Domingo in the Dominican intervention.

Young Love Reblooms—in 70s

Reuters

NAPLES, Jan. 24 — It was love at first sight for Antonio Prete and Rosa Montanini and this week they got engaged — 58 years and two marriages later.

It took them so long because after they met he had to leave for military service and joined the navy. The romance cooled. She married, and so did he.

Two months ago, both widowed, they met by chance in a grocery store, got talking and decided to make up for lost time — despite the fact that he is 74 and she 73.

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Fabrication Is Charged By Pentagon

From News Dispatches

North Korea claimed yesterday the captain of the USS Pueblo had confessed that he was engaged in "criminal espionage activities" inside North Korean territorial waters when he was captured Tuesday. The United States termed this "a travesty on the facts."

The alleged confession was attributed to Cmdr. Lloyd Mark Bucher. The 38-year-old officer, his 83-man crew and their intelligence ship were taken into custody by North Korean patrol boats and brought to the port of Wonsan.

The (North) Korean Central News Agency quoted Bucher as saying that he was carrying out an espionage mission against the Soviet Union and North Korea for which he and his crew had been offered "a lot of dollars" from the Central Intelligence Agency.

Alleged Remarks

"Having been captured now, I say frankly that our act was a criminal act which flagrantly violated the armistice agreement and it was a sheer act of aggression," Bucher said, according to the news agency.

"I have no excuse whatsoever for my criminal act as my ship intruded deep into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and was captured by the naval patrol crafts of the Korean People's Army in their self-defense action while conducting criminal espionage activities," the Commander allegedly said.

Called 'Fabrication'

In Washington, the Pentagon promptly asserted that the account attributed to Bucher was a "fabrication." It added that "no credence should be given to this contrived statement."

Assistant Secretary of Defense Phil G. Goulding, the Pentagon's chief spokesman, said the "style and wording" of the document published by the North Koreans "provide unmistakable evidence in themselves that this was not

See KOREA, A13, Col. 1

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The Weather
Today—Fair and cold, high in mid 30s. Saturday—Partly cloudy and not so cold. Probability of precipitation, near zero today, 10 per cent tonight. Temp. range: Today, 18-33; yesterday, 24-32. Details on Page B4.

The Washington Post

Times Herald

FINAL
72 Pages—4 Sections

Amusements	C 6	Financial	D 8
City Life	B 1	Gardens	D10
Classified	C 9	Movie Guide	B 7
Comics	B 8	Obituaries	B 6
Editorials	A20	Sports	D 1
Fed. Diary	A22	TV-Radio	D10
Events	B 4	Women's	C 1

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LBJ Calls Reserves, Korea Warns U.S.

Reds Say Crewmen Must Be Punished; U.S. Turns to U.N.

Diplomatic

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

North Korea said early today that the crewmen of the USS Pueblo "must be punished" and warned that it is "fully prepared to cope with . . . any surprise attack" in retaliation for the Pueblo seizure.

The statement did not say whether North Korea planned to put the men on trial or was demanding their punishment by American authorities as a condition of their release.

The statement by Rodong Shinmoon, the organ of the North Korean Communist Party, was monitored in Tokyo several hours after Secretary of State Dean Rusk told a New York audience that the only satisfactory solution to the Pueblo crisis is "immediate" release of the ship and crew.

Earlier yesterday the United States turned to the United Nations Security Council in an effort to solve the crisis short of force. President Johnson instructed Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg to ask for an "urgent session" of the Security Council. It may be held today.

Call for Punishment

The North Korean statement, as reported by Associated Press, called its seizure of the Pueblo on Jan. 23 a "proper self-defense measure" and warned if there is a repetition of "provocations" it will "sternly punish the aggressors."

Then it said:

"The criminals who encroach upon others' sovereignty and commit provocative acts must receive deserving punishment.

"These criminals must be punished by law."

Referring to what it called "the clamor of the Johnson clique who are attempting to threaten someone with a ridiculous talk about a 'retaliatory measure,'" the paper said:

"If the U.S. imperialist aggressors think they can frighten our people with threat or blackmail, it is really a stupid illusion."

It said the Korean people "are fully prepared to cope with any provocation or surprise attack of the enemy and are completely ready to deal a hundred-fold, thousand-fold,

See PUEBLO, A11, Col. 1

Military

By George C. Wilson
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Johnson called up 14,787 air reservists yesterday as the United States moved to put pressure on North Korea to release the USS Pueblo and its crew of 83 men.

Just what military role the reservists will play was not made clear at the Pentagon or anywhere else in Washington.

The men called up were told to report to their units by midnight Friday. They were not told in their orders where they would go from there.

Can Be on Duty 2 Years

The reservists, under the authority the President implemented yesterday, can be kept on active duty as long as two years.

Congressional leaders, who often are briefed in advance on such announcements, were taken by surprise by the call-up.

[United Press International quoted informed sources in Seoul last night as saying two squadrons of Air Force fighter-bombers and interceptors—about 100 planes—had moved to South Korean bases and that the nuclear-powered carrier Enterprise with at least another 100 planes may have moved to within 100 miles of Wonsan, the North Korean port where the Pueblo was taken. But a spokesman said reports that the carrier would move to within a few miles of Wonsan and broadcast an ultimatum were "unthinkable."]

The last time reservists were called up was during the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. The 14,000 men stayed on active duty for one month. In the 1961 Berlin crisis, President Kennedy called up 148,000 men. Most were on active duty about 10 months.

The type of units called up yesterday showed that the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara believed that the U.S. air arm needed strengthening.

Precautionary Move

Phil G. Goulding, Pentagon information chief, said the call-up was "a precautionary measure to strengthen our forces."

All the units activated yesterday are for air warfare or

See CALL-UP, A8, Col. 1

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CALLUP—From Page A1

U.S. Calls Up Air Reservists In Pueblo Seizure Crisis

for airlifting troops or supplies.

All told, there are 872 planes attached to the reserve units. Two hundred of them are F-100s, a supersonic jet that can carry a big load of bombs and rockets.

The rest of the reserve fleet activated consists of 72 Navy A-1 and F-8 fighters; 46 transports, mostly C-124s, and 54 RF-101 reconnaissance planes.

There are 872 pilots among the 9310 Air Force National Guardsmen, 4817 Air Force reservists and 600 Navy air reservists called up from the District of Columbia and 16 states.

The White House said it still hoped for a diplomatic rather than a military solution to the Pueblo crisis. But White House Press Secretary George Christian did not rule out a callup of ground forces.

"When and if decisions are made on a callup of Army and Marine Corps reservists," Christian said, "appropriate announcements will be made promptly."

Goldding said the military chiefs and McNamara had recommended the callup to the President. He would not say when the recommendation was made but said the decision on it came yesterday morning.

The President's activation of reservists amidst the Vietnam war undercuts the Administration's steady insistence that U.S. forces are not overextended in the world.

McNamara long has pointed to the Vietnam war as a model of Pentagon manpower management since it has been fought without calling reservists.

Military leaders have complained that his policy provides little leeway for handling unforeseen military emergencies. They warned they would have to turn to the reserves to handle them.

Most members of Congress who would comment on the callup approved the show of strength, but some feared it would lead to a larger war.

Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) called it "a natural sequence in the course of world events." Rep. L. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.) termed it a wise move.

In Boston, Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.) said the callup was "a very disturbing action" because it disrupted family and business lives. He said he would like more information on the Pueblo seizure, including "where the ship was and where it had been."

Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) said: "The President is making every effort to convey to the world—particularly the Communist World—the seriousness of this situation. He is exhausting all alternatives short of using force."

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (Mont.) said the action "underlines the seriousness of the situation that now confronts us" and indicates a possibility of the widening of the difficulties that confront us in the Far East." Sen. Ernest Gruening (D-Alaska), a leading war critic, called it an "alarming indication" of a bigger war.

While most reaction centered on the Pueblo incident, the callup could ease some of the strains of the Vietnam war. All through the war, American airplanes coming off the production line have barely kept pace with those lost in the field.

This heavy demand for aircraft in Vietnam left little for deployment to handle emergencies in South Korea.

The supply of aircraft may have figured in the military decision not to try to rescue the Pueblo Tuesday when the ship was being forced into the North Korean port of Wonsan by four North Korean patrol boats.

Defense officials would not comment on reports yesterday that what few U.S. Air Force planes were available in South Korea to help the Pueblo could not be sent out because they were strapped with nuclear weapons. Congressional sources said they had been told the planes could not be refitted with conventional ordnance in time to help the seized ship.

Military sources said the air cover decision went beyond the airplanes and their ordnance and took in a host of policy considerations, including the escalatory effect of taking on the North Korean air force to avenge the Pueblo.

The U.S. 5th Air Force customarily rotates fighters from Japan into and out of South Korea. The usual mix of F-4 and F-100 fighter-bombers can carry either conventional or nuclear bombs, but the Pentagon would not disclose what numbers were on hand at the time of the Pueblo incident.

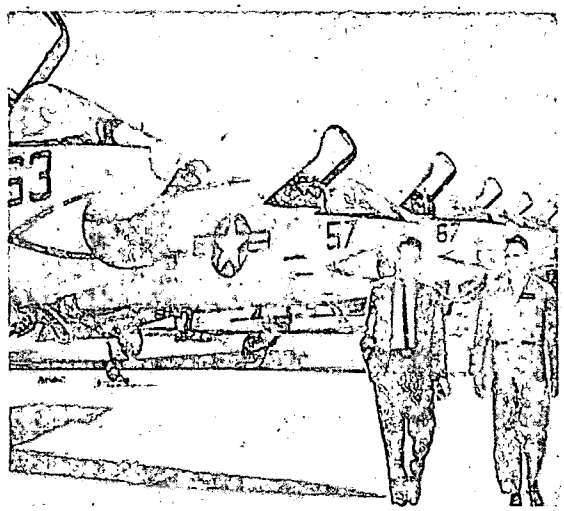
The air base facilities in South Korea are extensive enough to accommodate a big influx of planes and men, if the President decides to send reservists there.

One of the many unanswered questions about the Pueblo affair is why planes in Japan did not go to the aid of the ship when the call for help went out.

At jet fighter speeds, the U.S. planes could have reached the scene in less than an hour. And these fighters must have been armed for conventional warfare since Japan does not allow nuclear weapons on her soil.

The U.S. would have had to obtain prior consent from Japan to dispatch planes from her bases to help the Pueblo, according to the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

The ministry spokesman, Kinya Niseki, said yesterday that the U.S. did not make such a request.



United Press International

Reserve Lt. Cmdr. John Pullen, left, an aerospace company employe, and Lt. D. Field, an airline pilot, check the flight line at the Naval Air Station in Dallas after hearing that their air reserve unit had been called to active duty.

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A 11 Col. 1

PUEBLO—From Page A1

Korea Reds Warn U.S., Ask Crew Punishment

retaliation to it, if it pounces upon us."

The paper said the Pueblo's captain had confessed that the ship intruded deep into North Korean waters. It said this was "an arrogant hostile act" by the United States and "a deliberate, premeditated provocation for stepping up their policy of war ignition in Korea."

Secretary Rusk's statement in his New York speech last night was the most precise yet from a high Administration official as to just what the Administration is seeking and, most importantly, as to the timing involved.

Rusk declared that the seizure of the ship in international waters was "without precedent and is intolerable and there can be no satisfactory result short of the prompt, may I say immediate, release of that ship and its officers and crew."

Tension was mounting in Washington as the President sought a diplomatic way out of the crisis. In announcing the request for a U.N. session, the White House said it reflected Mr Johnson's "earnest desire to settle this matter promptly and if at all possible by diplomatic means."

The statement linked the seizure of the Pueblo with "aggresive actions" by North Korea across the demilitarized zone against South Korea.

First reaction from the U.N. was that the Council might ask North Korea to send a representative to give its side of the controvery, though the prospects that the Communists would agree are considered dim.

More hope for action is placed in a second effort to enlist the aid of the Soviet Union in winning release of the ship. A second message to Moscow was reported to be en route last night. The first effort resulted in a face-to-face rebuff on Tuesday to Ambassador Llewellyn E. Thompson when he made the request to Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vasily Kuznetsov.

Some reports here suggested there was hope that the Pueblo's crew might be released because the Communists had broadcast a purported confession by the ship's captain expressing hope for forgiveness. It also was noted that the full transcript of the Mixed Armistice Commission meeting on Tuesday contained this statement by the North Korean representative:

"All you have to do is to admit military provocations and aggressive acts committed by your side, apologize for them and assure this (conference) table that you will not re-commit such criminal acts."

But this large demand was not coupled with any promise. Furthermore, there is every reason to believe the crewmen will be subject to lengthy interrogation. Many of them are highly trained in the most secret American intelligence techniques, which are of surpassing interest to all the Communist nations.

Because the Soviet Union is the most interested of all in these techniques and in the ship's equipment, much of which apparently was not destroyed, the belief here is that any Soviet action to free the vessel and crewmen would have to wait for some time.

President Johnson had a series of meetings yesterday on the crisis, beginning with breakfast. Present were Rusk, Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, Goldberg, Presidential Assistant Walt W. Rostow and press secretaries George Christian and Tom Johnson.

The same group, plus incoming Defense Secretary Clark M. Clifford, had met the evening before, Christian told newsmen yesterday.

Christian's stress during the day was on further diplomatic efforts. He told reporters that "diplomatic efforts are continuing and we certainly hope they bear some fruit in the very near future."

The only word from the State Department was that diplomatic efforts were continuing.

The U.N. move was decided on at a White House luncheon meeting, Christian said. Goldberg then dispatched a formal request to Security Council President Aga Shahi of Pakistan.

A public debate at the U.N. will raise serious problems. The Soviet Union will be bound to defend its fellow Communist state, North Korea, and veto any move against it. Several other nations on the Council this year are generally hostile to the United States, especially over the Vietnam war.

Furthermore, by linking the Pueblo incident the North Korean actions against South Korea, the United States is indirectly involving the U.N. itself.

The forces in South Korea, although now reduced to South Korean and American troops with a handful of officers as observers from a few other nations, are technically under U.N. command.

Associated Press

Mrs. Bucher listens to tape recording allegedly made by her husband, skipper of the captured USS Pueblo.

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PLS REMOVE

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A 11 Col-1

PUEBLO—From Page A1

Korea Reds Warn U.S., Ask Crew Punishment

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Secretary Rusk's statement in his New York speech last night was the most precise yet from a high Administration official as to just what the Administration is seeking and, most importantly, as to the timing involved.

Rusk declared that the seizure of the ship in international waters was "without precedent and is intolerable and there can be no satisfactory result short of the prompt, may I say immediate, release of that ship and its officers and crew."

Tension was mounting in Washington as the President sought a diplomatic way out of the crisis. In announcing the request for a U.N. session, the White House said it reflected Mr. Johnson's "earnest desire to settle this matter promptly and if at all possible by diplomatic means."

The statement linked the seizure of the Pueblo with "agresive actions" by North Korea across the demilitarized zone against South Korea.

First reaction from the U.N. was that the Council might ask North Korea to send a representative to give its side of the controvery, though the prospects that the Communists would agree are considered dim.

More hope for action is placed in a second effort to enlist the aid of the Soviet Union in winning release of the ship. A second message to Moscow was reported to be en route last night. The first effort resulted in a face-to-face rebuff on Tuesday to Ambassador Llewellyn E. Thompson when he made the request to Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vasily Kuznetsov.

Some reports here suggested there was hope that the Pueblo's crew might be released because the Communists had broadcast a purported confession by the ship's captain expressing hope for forgiveness. It also was noted that the full transcript of the Mixed Armistice Commission meeting on Tuesday contained this statement by the North Korean representative:

"All you have to do is to admit military provocations and aggressive acts committed by your side, apologize for them and assure this (conference) table that you will not re-commit such criminal acts."

But this large demand was not coupled with any promise. Furthermore, there is every reason to believe the crewmen will be subject to lengthy interrogation. Many of them are highly trained in the most secret American intelligence techniques, which are of surpassing interest to all the Communist nations.

Because the Soviet Union is the most interested of all in these techniques and in the ship's equipment, much of which apparently was not destroyed, the belief here is that any Soviet action to free the vessel and crewmen would have to wait for some time.

President Johnson had a series of meetings yesterday on the crisis, beginning with breakfast. Present were Rusk, Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, Goldberg, Presidential Assistant Walt W. Rostow and press secretaries George Christian and Tom Johnson.

The same group, plus incoming Defense Secretary Clark M. Clifford, had met the evening before, Christian told newsmen yesterday.

Christian's stress during the day was on further diplomatic efforts. He told reporters that "diplomatic efforts are continuing and we certainly hope they bear some fruit in the very near future."

The only word from the State Department was that diplomatic efforts were continuing.

The U.N. move was decided on at a White House luncheon meeting, Christian said. Goldberg then dispatched a formal request to Security Council President Aga Shahi of Pakistan.

A public debate at the U.N. will raise serious problems. The Soviet Union will be bound to defend its fellow Communist state, North Korea, and veto any move against it. Several other nations on the Council this year are generally hostile to the United States, especially over the Vietnam war.

Furthermore, by linking to the Pueblo incident the North Korean actions against South Korea, the United States is indirectly involving the U.N. itself.

The forces in South Korea, although now reduced to South Korean and American troops with a handful of officers as observers from a few other nations, are technically under U.N. command.

Associated Press

Mrs. Bucher listens to tape recording allegedly made by her husband, skipper of the captured USS Pueblo.

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JAN 68

' of Double Involvement in Asia

hat the North Koreans can e forced to disgorge the 'ueblo and its crew in any hort period of time.

While North Korea's Com- nunist Party has lately hown signs of independnce of both China and the oviet Union, it clearly subcribes to the Maoist doctrine that the way to desroy the United States is to *hop off its fingers one by* ne. That is Mao's way of aying bleed the Americans y as many wars as possible.

'ower Spread Thin

In short, if a war in Vietam is fine, another war in orea would be doubly fine. 'his is not to say that the 'orth Koreans are about to lunge again across the borer, but that President Johnson faces a foe who quite probably would engage him with alacrity if he proffered the opportunity.

Furthermore, the President finds himself with minimal available power in the area of Korea, so great has been the drain-off to Vietnam.

The two American divisions in South Korea are below par and the only effective airpower in that country at the moment the Pueblo was seized is reported to have been armed with nuclear weapons. Yet the basic premise of American military policy is to have sufficient conventional force to avoid the dreadful choice between annihilation and surrender, as both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson have put it.

If this picture is black, there is perhaps another side to the coin, however.

The President has chosen at a moment of national anger to call up some reserve units, a step he long had refused to take lest it contradict his claim that the United States can have both guns and butter. The Pueblo incident thus may offer an unexpected and totally unsought moment for finally focusing the Nation's attention on Asia and for rolling up its sleeves to see the Vietnam war through.

This is an emotional moment and emotional moments are full of danger. The President's options to get back the Pueblo may be limited but he has wide latitude now that he lacked before to rally the country. In short, the combination of Korea and Vietnam could backfire against the Communist cause.

CORRECTION

In our ad in the Washington Post on Thursday, Jan. 25th on pages A-10 and A-11 the following items should have read:

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Weather Forecast

District and vicinity—Rain becoming mixed with or turning to snow tonight; cold, low in upper 20s. Cloudy, windy and cold tomorrow, precipitation ending, high in 30s. Chance of precipitation 60 percent tonight, 30 percent tomorrow. Today's low, 35 at 4:35 a.m.; high, 41 at 11 a.m.

Full Report on Page B-6

The Evening Star
WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

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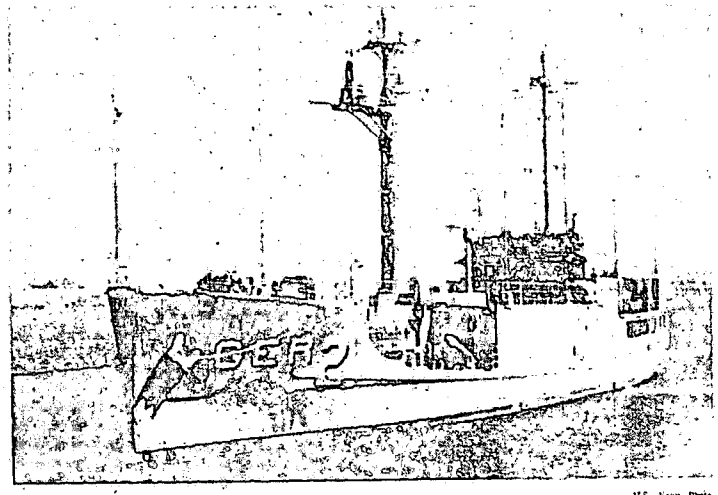
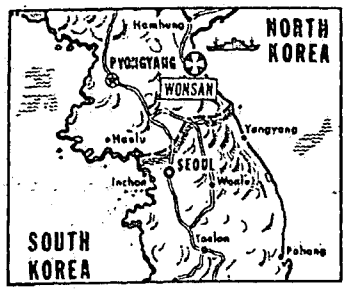
N. Korean Patrol Boats Seize U.S. Spy Ship With 83 Aboard



—U.S. Navy Photo

This is the USS Pueblo seized by the North Koreans today.



U.S.S. Pueblo Believed Taken Into Red Port

Communists Also Seen Stepping Up Attacks in South

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN
Star Staff Writer

A U.S. Navy intelligence ship with 83 men aboard was captured by North Korean patrol boats today amid signs of stepped-up Communist military activity in South Korea.

The Navy ship apparently was taken to a North Korean port.

The Defense Department said the USS Pueblo, a 179-foot "intelligence collection auxiliary ship" carrying two 30 caliber machine guns, was surrounded by four North Korean patrol boats and boarded by an armed party while MIG aircraft flew overhead.

The incident took place shortly before midnight last night EST (about 2 p.m. Tuesday, Korean time) about 25 miles off the North Korean coast, the Pentagon said. This would have placed the Pueblo in international—or open—waters.

The Pueblo radioed that it was being forced to proceed to the North Korean port of Wonsan, and it was presumed that it was being held there.

The Pueblo radioed that it did not fire its weapons. There were unconfirmed reports, however, that there were some wounded aboard.

"Utmost Gravity"

Secretary of State Dean Rusk called seizure on international waters "a matter of utmost gravity."

Rusk said the United States was following up through available diplomatic channels to secure the immediate release of the ship and the crew.

First word from North Korea on the incident was a broadcast from Pyongyang Radio claiming that North Korea had captured "an armed spy boat of the U.S. imperialist aggressor force which intruded way into the territorial waters of the republic and was carrying out hostile activities."

Coincidental with the capture of the Pueblo, Radio Pyongyang also broadcast claims that "armed guerrilla units" had attacked sentry posts of the U.S. 2nd Infantry in South Korea. There was no immediate confirmation here, but there were reports from Seoul of sporadic raids in the northern part of South Korea.

Moscow's Aid Asked

State Department sources said the Soviet Union has been asked to convey a U.S. demand for the immediate release of the ship and crew.

It is also expected that the Military Armistice Commission which is set up to supervise the 1953 Korean armistice will be called to discuss not

See SHIP, Page A-4

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JAN 68

SHIP

N. Koreans Seize U.S. Vessel, 83 Men

Continued From Page A-1

only the ship incident but also the rash of Communist military activity in South Korea.

The Message

Many details on the capture are lacking, but according to the Defense Department announcement, this is what happened:

At approximately 10 p.m. EST yesterday a North Korean patrol boat approached the Pueblo about 25 miles off the North Korean coast.

Using international flag signals, the North Korean boat asked the Pueblo to identify its nationality. The Pueblo identified itself as a U.S. ship.

Continuing to use flag signals, the patrol boat said "Heave to, or I will open fire on you."

The Pueblo replied: "I am in international waters."

The patrol boat circled the Pueblo.

About an hour later, three additional patrol craft appeared.

One of them ordered: "Follow in my wake; I have a pilot aboard."

The four ships closed in on the Pueblo, taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter.

Red Planes Overhead

Two MIG aircraft were also sighted by the Pueblo's crew circling off the starboard bow.

One of the patrol craft began backing toward the bow of the Pueblo with fenders rigged. An armed boarding party was standing on the bow.

The Pueblo radioed at 11:45 p.m. EST that she was being boarded by North Koreans, the Defense Department said.

At 12:10 a.m. EST today the Pueblo reported that she had been requested to follow the North Korean ship into Wonsan and that she had not used any weapons.

The final message from the Pueblo was sent at 12:32 a.m. It reported that it had come to "all stop" and that it was "going off the air."

The Pueblo had reported that the boarding took place at 127 degrees, 54.3 minutes east longitude; 39 degrees, 25 minutes north latitude.

The Ship

The Pueblo has a complement of 83 men, including six officers, 75 enlisted men and two civilians.

It is designated as the AGR-2 and is described as a modified light cargo ship (AKL). The Pueblo is 179 feet long and 33 feet wide with a displacement of 906 tons. It has a 10.2 foot draft. Its maximum speed is 12.2 knots.

Nebraskan Is Skipper

The skipper of the Pueblo was identified by the Pentagon as Commander Lloyd Mark Bucher of Lincoln, Neb.

Navy sources said the term "auxiliary" used in the ship's identification serves to indicate that it is an auxiliary to the fleet and not a combat ship.

It is said to have various electronic and oceanographic equipment aboard, presumably allowing it to monitor radio traffic as well as to take soundings on the possible presence of submarines and other ships in the area.

The incident—the gravest sea confrontation since the Gulf of Tonkin flacks in August 1964—is the latest in a series of provocations from North Korea over the past year.

Just a day before, a band of North Koreans sneaked into Seoul and apparently tried to storm the Blue House, the home of the South Korean chief of state, but were detected and driven off in a gun battle.

There is no solid information on why the North Koreans have decided to increase the tempo of their activity after years of generally strict adherence to the 1953 armistice.

North Korean leader Kim Il-Song, however, has constantly called for broad international support for North Vietnam, and it could be that this is a diversionary effort to try and weaken the U.S. effort in Vietnam.

The North Koreans are presumably embarrassed by the fact that South Korea has contributed two divisions to the allied effort in Vietnam while they have done nothing even comparable. The North Koreans are said to have trained some North Vietnamese pilots and supplied some aircraft.

Memories of June 8

In a way, today's incident brought memories of another crisis, when another U.S. ship, the Liberty, was attacked by Israeli planes and torpedo boats in the Mediterranean last June 8—during the Arab-Israeli war—and 34 Americans were killed and over 100 others injured.

The White House "hot line" to Moscow was used during that crisis.

The Liberty, a communications ship, was 13 miles north of the Sinai Peninsula, the Pentagon said, when the attack took place.

Israel later offered to make amends for the "tragic incident," in which the Israelis claimed no flag was being flown by the vessel.

The Defense Department shortly after the incident said that the U.S. could not accept an "attack upon a clearly marked noncombatant U.S. naval ship in international waters as 'plausible' under any circumstances whatsoever."

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The Weather
Today—Cloudy and cold, high in mid-50s. Friday—Cloudy and cold. Probability of precipitation is 10 per cent today and tonight. Temperature range: Today, 15-32; yesterday, 25-33. Details on Page C11.

The Washington Post

Times Herald

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108 Pages—6 Sections

Amusements	C14	Financial	F 9
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Classified	E 1	Obituaries	C12
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Fed. Diary	A21	Women's	B 1

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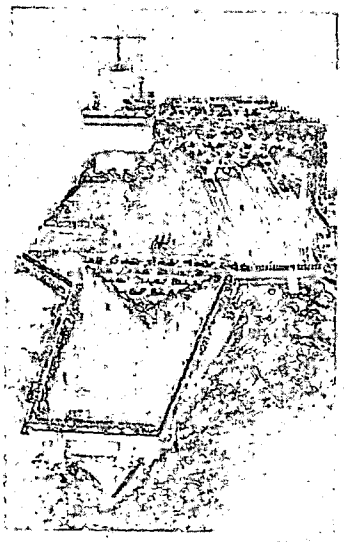
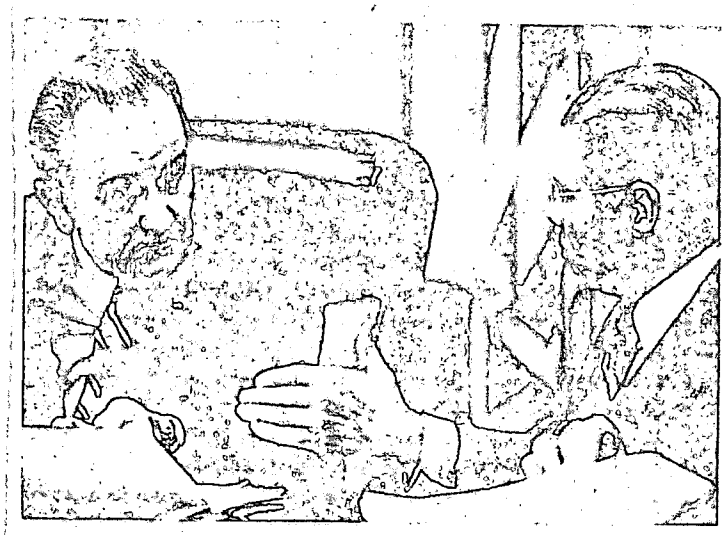


Associated Press
Carrier Enterprise, which is now in the Sea of Japan.

U.S. Pressing Ship's Return; N. Korea Cites 'Confession'



President Johnson and Defense Secretary McNamara discuss Pueblo incident at National Security Council meeting.

LBJ Strives To Avoid Use of Force

By Chalmers M. Roberts and Carroll Kilpatrick
Washington Post Staff Writers

The White House strongly indicated last night that diplomatic efforts to secure the return of the seized Navy ship Pueblo will be continued before any decision is made to use military force.

At the end of a long day of top-level meetings, including an hour's session of the National Security Council, Presidential Press Secretary George Christian told newsmen that "the subject is still open through diplomatic channels. We have not abandoned diplomatic efforts toward settlement of the matter."

Christian characterized the diplomatic efforts as "still of paramount interest" but said he could give no details.

Russians Refuse Aid

Christian spoke after Administration officials had disclosed that the Soviet Union, to which the United States had quickly appealed for aid in freeing the Pueblo and its 83-man crew, had flatly refused to help.

Another official said that "the response of the Soviet government has not been satisfactory." He added that Washington had no evidence that Moscow had even transmitted its request to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

Furthermore, North Korean Maj. Gen. Park Chung Kuk, the senior Communist representative at the Mixed Armistice Commission meeting at Panmunjom Tuesday night, Washington time, ignored American demands for return of the Pueblo and its men.

Negative Remarks

A report from the American Embassy in Seoul to the State Department did not say that Gen. Park had rejected, in so many words, the demand. It did say that the whole tenor of his remarks was negative and Administration officials took them to be a rejection.

Thus just what the President will now decide to do, if further diplomatic efforts also prove fruitless, was a closely kept secret. There were indications that a second effort to enlist Russian aid would be made before any decision on whether to use force.

Christian said yesterday morning that "the Government, of course, is organized and planning, under the President's directive, to deal with the matter." He added that no firmed decisions had then been reached.

But he and all other officials, including Secretary of

See PUEBLO, A12, Col. 5

Partial list of Pueblo crew, Page A12.

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PUEBLO—
From A1

U.S. Pressing Ship's Release

State Dean Rusk, who spoke with newsmen at the Capitol, flatly refused to talk about future action.

Meanwhile, an American naval task force built around the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise was on station in the middle of the Sea of Japan about 150 miles east of Wonsan, where the Pueblo has been taken. There was no word of what additional military dispositions may have been made but officials said that other movements had been ordered.

There were "no plans at present" for a presidential address to the Nation on this serious crisis which had hit official Washington with thunderbolt force and aroused anger in Congress.

Nor was there any sign of possible action at the United Nations. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg met for 30 minutes with Secretary General U Thant to give him "all available current information." But Thant, who himself had no comment on the Pueblo incident, reported through a spokesman that Goldberg had "not yet" requested him to step in.

North Korea is not a U.N. member. Its Communist government has been totally hostile to the world organization, and North Korea is still under a U.N. condemnation for the invasion of South Korea more than 17 years ago.

Rusk yesterday escalated his own characterization of the North Korean capture of the Pueblo, which he had termed "a matter of utmost gravity" a day earlier. Yesterday when asked if he agreed with a Senator's characterization of the seizure as an act of war, Rusk replied:

"It is a very harsh act. I would not object to characterizing it as an act of war in terms of categories in which such acts can be construed."

Rusk declared that "my strong advice to North Korea is to cool it. There have been enough of these incidents and they have come out of North Korea," a reference to the mounting attacks on South Korea by small bands and by infiltrators.

"North Korea would be well advised to pull back here, stop this kind of activity, and decide to live in peace with its neighbors," he said.

Rusk also said that "we would like to see the Russians give us some help in this." By the time he was saying this, however, other officials were reporting the Soviet turndown. At the White House it also was said that the efforts through the Russians "have not had satisfactory results."

Asked whether he saw a link between the North Korean action and the Communists in the Vietnam war, Rusk replied that he felt there was "no organic connection." He added that "it is possible North Korea tried to put on the pressure but it will not have the slightest effect."

Government specialists appear to be unanimous in viewing the North Korean infiltration of the South and the seizure of the Pueblo as strictly their own doing. They reject any notion that the ship was seized in collaboration with North Vietnam or with Communist China or the Soviet Union.

The North Koreans, however, have been embarrassed, it is felt here, by their inability to give much help to North Vietnam whereas South Korean troops are major and active American and South Vietnamese allies There have been reports of North Korean pilots in North Vietnam but no public confirmation that they have seen action.

Washington experts on Korean and Communist affairs generally assume that Soviet intelligence experts will fine-toothcomb the Pueblo to learn what they can of the most secret equipment. Thus there was some feeling here that after this is done Moscow might be more amenable to asking the North Koreans to release the ship and crew.

There is, of course, no guarantee that North Korea would take such Soviet advice, if offered. The Pyongyang government some months ago took a public stand of equal independence from both Moscow and Peking.

Reports of the Mixed Armistice Commission session showed that the North Korean general heaped charge after charge on the United States. Yesterday Pyongyang put out what it called a confession by the Pueblo's captain of his alleged guilt.

Christian termed the North Korean charges "both cynical and a distortion of fact." State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said the charges were "cynical, denunciatory of the United States and a distortion of fact."

North Korean Gen. Park charged that the Pueblo had engaged in a "vicious act of hostility" inside territorial waters and not outside as the United States claims. He also charged that the Pueblo was trying to "come closer to the land to perpetrate provocative acts" when North Korean navy vessels "returned fire."

Seizure Seen Linked to Purge

LONDON, Jan. 24 (UPI)—The seizure of the USS Pueblo is part of a hard-line North Korean strategy that has emerged after a major government and party purge, authoritative sources said today.

The shake-up has also led to the systematic acceleration of the campaign of subversion and infiltration in South Korea, the sources said.

The purge was believed to have been brought about partly by internal differences and partly by desire to help the North Vietnamese Communists by distracting the United States.

A new cabinet was apparently formed last month in Pyongyang after Pak Kum-chol, vice president of the Presidium, Vice Premier Ko Ik-ok and two senior members of the Communist Party were purged, the sources said.

Earlier, a number of senior army officers were reportedly put on the Party's political committee, strengthening the military's policy-making role.

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Reds Ignore Demand For Return of Ship

JAN 68

By Richard Halloran
Washington Post Foreign Service

SEOUL, Jan. 24—North Korea today ignored a U.S. demand that electronic surveillance ship Pueblo, seized off the Korean coast Tuesday, be returned immediately.

At Panmunjom, site of the Korean War armistice meetings North of here, senior United Nations delegate Rear Adm. John V. Smith called the seizure an "act of piracy," demanded immediate return of the ship and its crew intact, and said the United States required an apology from the North Korean regime.

Smith said the Pueblo was in international wafers at time of incident.

The senior North Korean delegate, Maj. Gen. Pak Chung Kuk, countered with a demand for a U.S. apology for its "intolerable provocative acts." He claimed North Korean patrol vessels on routine duty "returned fire to the pirate ship, killing and wounding several crewmen and capturing 80-odd others."

Pak said the Pueblo was inside North Korean territorial waters and told Smith not to make a "foolish attempt to cover up your criminal act like a robber playing cop, by falsely claiming the ship was in international waters."

Smith also charged North Korea with trying to "perpetrate the most heinous crime since your barbaric invasion" of South Korea in 1950 in Sunday's unsuccessful attempt to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung Hee.

As Smith spoke, search and sweep maneuvers continued to round up remaining members of a 31-man North Korean commando squad. Since Sunday's fight that broke up the attempt, 15 North Koreans have been killed and one captured. South Korean casualties since Sunday were 14 killed, including a colonel shot to death today.

Pak retorted that the attempt to kill President Park was an act of "anti-United States patriotic guerrillas of South Korea." He likened the attempt to that in which President Kennedy died and said President Johnson would meet the same fate.

Pak told Smith to "stop screaming like a frightened mad wolf" and reiterated the longstanding North Korean demand that "American imperialist aggressors" get out of Korea.

Few here think the Korean War is likely to be reopened. But no one is ruling out that possibility in this critical situation.

Most Korean and American observers believe that the incidents are part of ever intensifying efforts by Pyongyang to stir up revolution in the South to overthrow the South Korean government and reunify this peninsula by armed force. Observers here forecast more incidents of a similar nature building up to a peak during the coming summer.

South Korean reaction to both incidents has been mixture of shock, anger, and tension. The South Korean government has lengthened the curfew to begin at 10 p.m. every night and run until 4 a.m. Armed soldiers are stationed at key spots in city.

Much speculation has arisen as to why North Korea seized the espionage vessel. One view held by well-informed sources is that this was an effort to show up the United States as a "paper tiger." Although North Korean Premier Kim Il Sung leans toward the Soviet Union because it can supply money and arms, ideologically he favors Communist China's Mao Tse-tung and believes that Americans should be harassed everywhere in the world as part of a worldwide conflict with "imperialism."

The incidents may also have been a North Korean attempt to prevent South Korea from sending more troops to fight in Vietnam.

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Field Commanders Decided Not to Attempt Ship Rescue

By George C. Wilson
Washington Post Staff Writer

Defense officials said last night that it was the military commanders in the field who decided against trying to rescue the USS Pueblo once she was boarded by North Koreans.

The Pentagon added that before the boarding, the skipper of the Pueblo was left on his own. Defense officials, who could not be identified under the ground rules of their meeting with newsmen, said no orders went out from Washington to the Pueblo during the entire hijacking sequence.

The responsibility for the decisions during the Pueblo's fateful hours was thus put squarely on the military.

Defense officials said they were not passing judgment on the decisions made nor implying any foulup in the capture, but they implied that once the skipper had given up his ship, there was nothing the Navy could think of doing to save the situation.

The first of four North Korean patrol boats started harassing the Pueblo at 10 p.m. ETS, Monday. Defense officials said the Pueblo's skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, did not call for help until the North Koreans started to board his ship at 11:45 p.m.

The Pentagon did not disclose the nature of the call for help nor to whom it was sent. But Defense officials said the message was received and understood.

From 11:45 p.m. Monday until the Pueblo reached Wonsan 26.1 nautical miles from its position, the question was how to rescue her.

Since the Pueblo has a maximum speed of 12.2 knots, military commanders had at least two hours to intercede while the North Korean patrol boats forced the American ship toward Wonsan harbor.

U.S. airplanes in the area, even if they could have reached the ship while she was still in international waters, would have had difficulty strafing or bombing the patrol boats without hitting the Pueblo as well.

Apparently there were no U.S. warships close by to intervene.

This apparent state of U.S. helplessness came through in an official Pentagon statement that said: "Time and distance factors made it impossible to respond to the call that was made when the ship was being boarded."

The key military decision then—according to the Pentagon time sequence—was made by the Pueblo's skipper.

Defense officials said they did receive a message from the skipper that he had started destroying the secret intelligence equipment on the Pueblo.

The ship stayed in radio communication with Navy shore stations even after the North Koreans boarded her. Possibly the Koreans took some time to cut off all the Pueblo's radio communication gear—some of which could have been sealed off in secret compartments.

While boarding started at 11:45 p.m. Monday, the Pueblo did not go off the air until 12:32 a.m. Tuesday.

Defense officials said last night that Secretary Robert S. McNamara was notified about the Pueblo capture at 12:23 a.m. Tuesday.

Associated Press

Adm. John V. Smith (right), chief U.N. delegate to the armistice commission at Panmunjom, reads statement of protest to Maj. Gen. Park Chung Kuk (far left), North Korea's delegate. Officer second from left is not identified.

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The Weather
Today—Cold, occasional light snow, high in upper 20s. Tonight—Cold. Thursday—Cold. Chance of precipitation 50% by afternoon, 20% tonight. Temp. range: Today, 20-33; Yesterday, 35-49. Details, Page C8.

The Washington Post

Times Herald

FINAL

76 Pages—4 Sections

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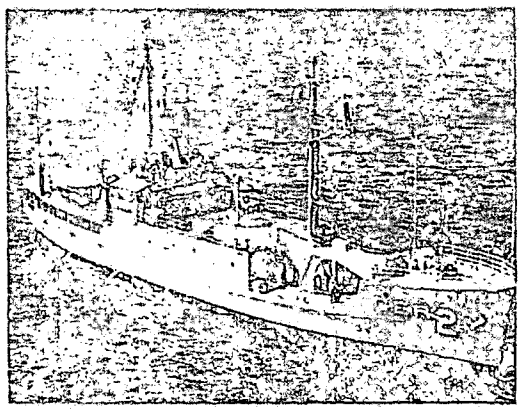
Korean Reds Seize U.S. Ship, 83 Men



The USS Pueblo is shown under way in this stock Navy photo

Carrier Enterprise Leading Task Fleet Ordered to Site

Diplomatic Moves

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Johnson has available both diplomatic and military options to secure the return of the American ship and its crew seized by North Korea.

Administration officials stressed last night that he had made no decision on what step to take next. First he wants to know, they said, whether the diplomatic efforts will succeed. If they fail, he now has the option of using the massive military power moved yesterday into the Sea of Japan off North Korea.

The officials indicated that some decision is possible shortly on military action if the North Koreans do not promptly release the Pueblo and its crew.

The first response from North Korea was a rejection of the American demand to return the ship, according to dispatches from the Mixed Armistice Commission meeting in Korea late last night, Washington time. Maj. Gen. Pak Chunk-Kuk, the chief North Korean delegate, charged that the Pueblo had committed "intolerable provocations" and had illegally "infiltrated" North Korean waters "on an espionage mission."

American officials said grimly last night that whether there is a new war between the United States and North Korea is wholly up to the Communists.

A National Security Council meeting is scheduled for 1 p.m. today at the White House at which there is expected to be an assessment of the diplomatic efforts to win release of the Pueblo.

At a meeting of the Korean Mixed Armistice Commission last night, Washington time, at Panmunjom on the line which divides North from South Korea, the United States demanded the return of the ship and crew.

American Rear Admiral John V. Smith also demanded an apology from the North Koreans. He called seizure of the Pueblo "the most heinous crime" since the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950.

Smith coupled the ship incident with the rising number of North Korean incursions into South Korea across the demilitarized zone and he warned that if they continued the responsibility for the consequences would rest on the North Koreans.

United Press International

CMDR. L. M. BUCHER . . . Pueblo's captain

The United States also has moved on the diplomatic front to free the ship by asking the Soviet Union to intervene. A message was given the Rus-

See EFFECTS, A6, Col. 1

Military Action

By George C. Wilson and David Hoffman
Washington Post Staff Writers

North Korean patrol boats captured a ship of the U.S. Navy yesterday and the United States promptly ordered a sea-air task force led by the carrier Enterprise into waters off North Korea.

The Defense Department reported that four of the 83 crewmen aboard the USS Pueblo, an intelligence ship, were wounded during the capture. At least one is said to be in critical condition, even though the 906-ton vessel kept its guns silent during the encounter.

North Korea said its patrol boats returned fire from the Pueblo and that several American crew members were killed or wounded. The intelligence ship carried three 50 caliber machine guns while the Communist gunboats are armed with 40 mm. cannons.

U. S. spokesmen had nothing to say about an exchange of gunfire only that the Pueblo did not use its guns.

U.S. officials said the attack took place 16 miles off the North Korean mainland in international waters. However, North Korea countered that the Pueblo had trespassed within its 12-mile territorial limit.

The first North Korean patrol boat pulled alongside the Pueblo at 10 p.m. EST Monday and threatened it with cannon fire unless the American ship "hove to." Three other gunboats joined the first attack craft soon afterward and surrounded the intelligence ship.

An hour and 45 minutes after the first Communist craft appeared, an armed North Korean party boarded the Pueblo under cover of Mig fighter planes. The Pueblo's skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, 37, was ordered to follow the wake of a Communist patrol boat into Wonsan harbor.

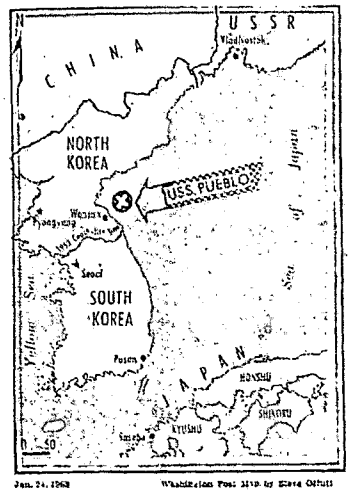
The carrier Enterprise had left Sasebo, Japan, late Monday, bound for a station off the coast of North Vietnam. But immediately after the Pueblo's seizure, theater commanders turned the big ship around and ordered it to proceed northeastward toward the Sea of Japan.

Escorting the Enterprise is the nuclear frigate Truxton, several destroyers and supply ships summoned from ports in Japan. Air cover for the quickly assembled flotilla will be drawn from the Enterprise and bases in Japan and Korea as required.

As the crisis deepened, American Ambassador William J. Porter reportedly told South Korean Premier Chung Il Kwon at Seoul that the United States has taken "grave initial steps" to deal with the seizure.

The Defense Department's deputy information chief, Daniel Z. Henkin, reported last night that not until the actual boarding had begun—an hour and 45 minutes after the first patrol boat's appearance—did

See PUEBLO, A6, Col. 1



Jan. 24, 1968 Washington Post Map by Elena Offutt

Map shows approximate position of the USS Pueblo when it was seized by North Korean patrol boats and taken to the port of Wonsan. The nuclear carrier Enterprise, which had just left Sasebo, Japan, and other U.S. vessels were reported moving toward North Korea.

Congress Reacts Angrily

Ship's Recovery Pressed by Hill

Congress reacted angrily yesterday to North Korea's capture of the American intelligence ship, the USS Pueblo.

There were calls for military action to recover the vessel and its 83-man crew from the city of Wonsan, where it was forced into port.

Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.), Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, called the seizure "almost an act of war." His House counterpart, Rep. L. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.), said, "I hope the President will take all necessary steps to restore this ship to our fleet."

Some, including critics of the Administration's policy in Vietnam, suggested that the U.S. commitment there was responsible for the North Korean action.

Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.), Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee who is quietly probing the 1964 confrontation in the Tonkin Gulf, and Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.) said the American commitment in Vietnam has allowed other countries to move against the U.S. with impunity.

Sen. George D. Aiken (R-Vt.) suggested that "North Korea is irritated because South Korea is supplying 40,000 troops to South Vietnam."

One of the strongest reactions came from Rep. Bob Wilson (R-Calif.), who demanded that the United States take military action "at once" to recover the Pueblo and her crew. Wilson also raised three critical questions that were echoed by a number of legislators.

The three that "must be answered" were, he said: Why wasn't air cover sent? Why wasn't there "adequate military protection" for the patrolling Pueblo? Why wasn't the ship scuttled by its captain and crew before it was boarded by the North Koreans "to prevent our secret intelligence equipment from falling into enemy hands?"

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) called the seizure "a clear violation of international law" and said he assumed the Government will make "the necessary protests and objections"

See REACT, A6, Col. 4

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PUEBLO—From Page A1

Korean Reds Seize U.S. Vessel

the Pueblo's skipper radio for help.

In the Defense Department's view, the Pueblo's captain acted entirely on his own in electing to heave to and surrender without a fight. At no time, Henkin said, did the skipper ask permission to scuttle his ship rather than see it fall into North Korean hands.

Reliable sources reported the Pueblo lay quiet with engines off as first one, then three additional patrol boats took up positions around her. With her sophisticated electronic and acoustic monitoring devices, the intelligence ship probably heard the North Korean craft as they approached in broad daylight.

It is not known whether the Pueblo's crew had a chance to destroy the ship's top-secret intelligence equipment before their capture. However, almost all such devices feature a "destruct" switch that triggers a self-contained charge of explosive for use during emergencies.

President Johnson was awakened between 2 and 2:30 a.m. yesterday, according to White House Press Secretary George Christian. He said that presidential aide Walt W. Rostow had done so to give him an "advisory" as to what had occurred. At that hour, the ship had gone off the air and been taken to the North Korean port of Wonsan.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk was alerted through the State Department's operations center around midnight, Washington time. Assistant Secretary William P. Bundy, whose area is all of the Far East, heard the news at 12:30 a.m.

There was no word last night as to when Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara or other top Pentagon officials were alerted or whether they had given the ship any orders.

Christian indicated that the incident had been discussed at the regular Tuesday lunch the President holds with Rusk, McNamara and Rostow. Yesterday Secretary of Defense-designate Clark Clifford, CIA Director Richard Helms and Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also were present. What was billed as a regular meeting of the National Security Council is scheduled for 1 p.m. today. The NSC last met on Nov. 29.

Not since Feb. 4, 1862, has a U.S. naval vessel been captured by hostile forces while afloat. On that date, a Union cutter, damaged by Confederate shore fire, was captured in Galveston harbor.

But naval historians could not cite a single instance of an American ship's being hijacked on the high seas by a foreign power with which this Nation was not actively at war.

In recent years, however, U.S. intelligence ships operating off the North Korean coast have been harassed by the North Korean navy. This caused speculation yesterday that the Pueblo's skipper might not have suspected, until too late, that the patrol craft intended more than a minor provocation.

In a terse statement, the Defense Department released the following account of the Pueblo's capture:

"At approximately 10 p.m. EST (Monday) a North Korean patrol boat approached the Pueblo. Using international signals, it requested the Pueblo's nationality. The Pueblo identified herself as a U.S. ship. Continuing to use flag signals, the patrol boat said: 'Heave to or I will open fire on you.' The Pueblo replied, 'I am in international waters.' The patrol boat circled the Pueblo."

(It was learned yesterday that one or more of the Korean craft carried batteries of 40mm cannon, more than a match for the Pueblo's 50-cal. machine guns.)

The Pentagon announcement continued:

"Approximately one hour later, three additional patrol craft appeared. One of them ordered: 'Follow in my wake; I have a pilot aboard.' The four ships closed in on the Pueblo, taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter. Two Mig aircraft were also sighted by the Pueblo circling off the starboard bow.

"One of the patrol craft began backing toward the bow of the Pueblo with fenders rigged. An armed boarding party was standing on the bow.

"The Pueblo radioed at 11:45 p.m. that she was being boarded by North Koreans.

"At 12:10 a.m. EST today (Tuesday), the Pueblo reported that she had been requested to follow the North Korean ships into Wonsan and that she had not used any weapons.

"The final message from the Pueblo was sent at 12:32 a.m. It reported that it had come to 'all stop' and that it was 'going off the air.'"

The North Korean radio promptly charged the Pueblo was a "spy ship" engaged in "hostile activities" inside its territorial waters. Radio Pyongyang also linked the Pueblo's presence off Wonsan to recent raids on the South Korean capital of Seoul by unidentified insurgents.

North Korea alleged that as a result of the raids, which it said was carried out by South Korean guerrillas, U.S. and South Korean authorities had gone into a "fit of frenzy." The Americans and South Koreans, Radio Pyongyang said, had fired "thousands of rounds" of small arms and artillery across the demilitarized zone after the attempt to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung Hee.

Barring a communications breakdown, U.S. 5th Air Force headquarters near Tokyo had at least one hour and 45 minutes notice that the Pueblo was in serious trouble. Even through its captain did not request immediate aid, that much time elapsed between the appearance of the first North Korean patrol boat and the boarding of the Pueblo.

Yet U.S. fighters failed to rescue the beleaguered ship, raising the question, why?

The U.S. 5th Air Force, whose jurisdiction includes Korea, customarily rotates fighter squadrons from Japan into and out of South Korea on temporary tours of duty. More often than not, these squadrons are based at K-55, an air base near the village of Osan-ni, about 30 nautical miles south of Seoul.

As fighters fly, K-55 is just 17 minutes from the spot where the Pueblo encountered trouble. Other major air bases—K-8 at Kunsan and K-2 at Taegu—are less than half an hour by jet from the same spot.

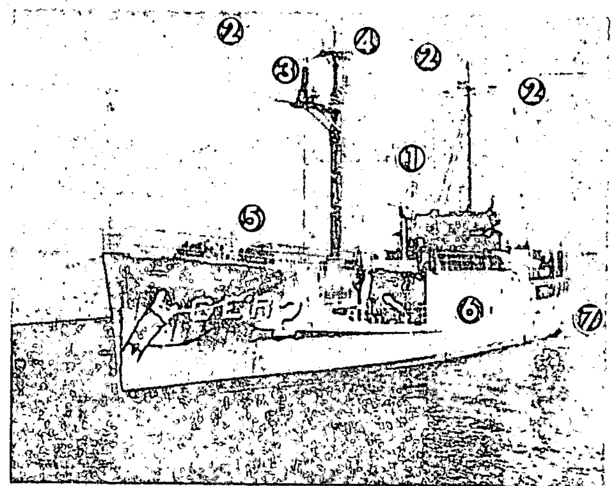
K-55, moreover, can communicate with the powerful U.S. radar station perched atop a bluff on Paengnyong-do Island in the Yellow Sea. "PAWDo," the site's nickname, sits a mile south of the 38th parallel off the west coast of North Korea.

It is understood this Ground Control Intercept radar is powerful enough to reach across North Korea and pick up hostile aircraft in the area being patrolled by the Pueblo. Yet there is no evidence U.S. fighters were scrambled to ward off the North Korean patrol boats and their Mig-17 fighter cover.

The capture of the Pueblo was reminiscent of the 1964 Tonkin Gulf incident in which North Vietnamese torpedo boats reportedly attacked two U.S. destroyers. President Johnson retaliated by ordering U.S. fighter-bombers to destroy the North Vietnamese bases from which such craft operated.

This raid, the first on North Vietnam, preceded by six months the beginning of sustained bombing attacks.

This detailed U.S. Air Force map shows the spot where U.S. officials say the USS Pueblo was captured in international waters by North Korean patrol boats. The heavy dotted line across Korea is the 1953 cease-fire line between North and South Korea.



An official Navy picture of the USS Pueblo. Numbers (explained below) locate the vessel's special equipment.

The USS Pueblo—An Intelligence Ship

The USS Pueblo, one of a large fleet of American intelligence-gathering ships, carries millions of dollars worth of secret electronic equipment. Its electronic gear enables the crew to listen to land, sea and air communications within its surveillance range.

Intercepted communications are recorded on tapes that go ultimately to Washington where experts try to fit them into a world-wide intelligence pattern.

By capturing the Pueblo the North Koreans and other Communist powers may well learn about the latest American intelligence-ferreting techniques.

The above photograph, released by the Pentagon, shows some of the intelligence equipment that will now be available for North Korean inspection.

1—The twin antennae, called Yagis, show where signals are coming from so other equipment on the ship can focus on them.

2—The long poles appear to support cables for transmitting messages to submerged submarines by means of low frequency radio waves that can penetrate the sea's surface to about 50 feet.

3—The radar equipment appears to be designed for bouncing signals off the troposphere. This gives the ship still another way to listen or transmit messages. This tropospheric communication technique has special advantages for eavesdropping on airplanes and their ground controllers.

4—There is a dome-shaped antenna pointing skyward at this location, barely visible in the photograph. This probably is the chief means of communicating with airplanes and eavesdropping on their conversations.

5—The Pentagon photograph shows a deck winch at this location. But this winch, left over from when the Pueblo acted as an auxiliary, probably has been removed to make room for electronic equipment such as the giant ear used on the USS Liberty, sunk by the Israelis during the Middle East war.

6—This is the logical location for tape recording equipment that records communications intercepted by the Pueblo. The area might even be sealed off from the rest of the ship—as was the case in the USS Liberty.

7—Unless the Pueblo has had its hull modified for underwater listening equipment, the ship trails a long line of hydrophones behind it as it moves through the water. The listening line is beneath the surface, dragged down by a planing device, and has weighted hydrophones hanging from it like a crabber's trot line.

Each ship makes a distinctive sound underwater, called its signature by ferret specialists. These signatures are fed into a computer by U.S. intelligence experts for ready comparison to signals recorded by ferret ships on station.

If the Pueblo had such underwater detection equipment, and it most likely did, it could listen to ships passing by for 50 miles around.

REACT—From Page A1

Angry Congressmen Call for Seized Ship's Recovery

through the Soviet Union and Japan, which have diplomatic relations with North Korea.

"This is typical, I think, of things we're going to have a lot more of," Symington said. "The South Koreans are just a few yards away (from North Korea) at the Demilitarized Zone. We've got several divisions there. The North Koreans are supplied by China and I guess the Soviet Union. Maybe it illustrates that when the cat's away the mice will play—after all, we're pretty heavily engaged in Vietnam."

Rep. William H. Bates (R-Mass.), senior GOP member of the House Armed Services Committee, condemned the seizure as "a dastardly act of piracy," while Rep. Durward G. Hall (R-Mo.) said "these provocations" demanded an immediate and forceful response.

Although Russell agreed with Symington's contention that the United States was widely spread militarily around the world, he said the country was "capable of fulfilling any of our commitments we may have in Korea and at the same time maintain our posture in Vietnam".

House GOP Leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan said the North Korean should release the ship "forthwith."

"If the vessel was cruising in international waters, as was apparently the case, there is no justification whatever for the action taken by the North Koreans," he said.

Rep. Spark M. Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) said the United States should call on the United Nations to condemn "this act of piracy."

Outside Congress, the man who negotiated the 1953 armistice in Korea, Gen. Mark W. Clark, said in Charleston, S.C., that the seizure of the Pueblo was a lesson for persons demanding negotiations in Vietnam.

"The conference table is just an extension of the war for the Communists," said Clark, who is now the president of The Citadel, a military school.

"It doesn't surprise me. It angers me, of course. But this isn't the first time the enemy in Korea violated the armistice. As soon as I signed it they began to violate it."

Forces of U.S. And 2 Koreas

The United States has about 50,000 troops in South Korea to police the truce. The maneuver force is made up of two elements, the 2d and 7th Infantry Divisions.

The North Koreans are credited with an army of about 310,000, and Navy consisting of about 80 patrol craft and an air force of about 500 planes, many of them Mig-15, 17 and 21 fighters.

South Korea has a bigger army but small air force, relying heavily on the short range F-5 fighter and old F-86 jet.

EFFECTS—From Page A1

LBJ to Try Diplomacy To Free Ship, Crew

sians in Moscow yesterday shortly after the seizure of the vessel.

Administration officials yesterday viewed the Pueblo incident, which caught Washington by total surprise, as the most serious in Korea since the armistice on July 27, 1953, ended the bloody three-year war.

The seizure was characterized as a "matter of utmost gravity" and the State Department moved at once for a diplomatic solution. The movement of the naval force headed by the nuclear-powered carrier Enterprise already was under way by that time.

State Department officials tended to believe that the North Koreans had seized upon "a target of opportunity" in challenging and then seizing the Pueblo which had been in the area for two weeks.

These officials said they did not believe the act was part of any concerted Communist plan to open a second front against the United States in Asia. However, they pointed out that the North Koreans have stepped up both their infiltration of South Korea and the violence of their verbal attacks on the United States over the last year or so.

The Washington reading is that the doctrinaire North Korean Communists hope to spark a guerrilla war in South Korea which would lead to the overthrow of the American-supported government in Seoul and to unification of the country under Communist rule.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk told newsmen he considered the incident "a matter of utmost gravity." At the White House it was characterized as a "very serious situation." Later, in a formal statement, the State Department said the United States "views this action by North Korea with utmost gravity."

The Department said the United States at once had asked the Soviet Union, via the American Embassy in Moscow, to help obtain release of the ship and its crew. It was also announced that the seizure would be brought up at a meeting of the Mixed Armistice Commission which had been due to meet at 9 o'clock last night on the earlier attempt by North Korean infiltrators in the South Korean capital of Seoul to kill President Park Chung Hee.

At the United Nations, Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg called on U.N. Secretary General U Thant to express American concern. He said he did not then have sufficient details to call for any U.N. action.

While Administration officials spoke of getting the ship and the men back as quickly as possible, there was no certainty that this would occur. North Korea said that the "spy ship" had intruded into its territorial waters although the United States said the Pueblo was 25 miles off shore.

The last case of American servicemen being captured was in 1963 when two Army helicopter pilots were forced down north of the Korean dividing line. They were released a year later.

While the United States emphasized what it termed "the seriousness" of "this flagrant North Korean action on the high seas," North Korea excoriated what it called the American "imperialists" and their "armed ship."

Pyongyang Radio, the official voice of North Korea, yesterday boasted of guerrilla raids on American sentry posts along the Demilitarized Zone which divides the two Koreas. The broadcast said the raids took place "as the armed struggle of revolutionary people spreads everywhere in South Korea."

This has been the North Korean line for some time, claiming that the United States was trying to suppress an uprising of South Koreans. A broadcast on Jan. 10 charged that four days earlier "many armed boats, mingled with fishing boats, under the escort of armed warships," had intruded into North Korean coastal waters. The broadcast claimed that "escort boat number 56" had been "sent to the bottom" in such an incident a year ago.

Earlier broadcasts charged that American reconnaissance planes had flown over North Korea. American ground provocations also have been charged.

On the other hand, a Goldberg report to the U.N. on Nov. 2 stated that as of that time in 1967 there had been 543 North Korean incidents in violation of the armistice as contrasted to 50 incidents in all of 1966. Goldberg reported that North Korean armed raiders had invaded the South by both land and sea.

These infiltrators in some cases, Goldberg's report stated, had "attempted unsuccessfully to organize a form of guerrilla activity." Nearly all of the infiltrators had been killed or captured, he added, by Korean forces and police with "the universal and most effective assistance of the civilian population."

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(Page 3)

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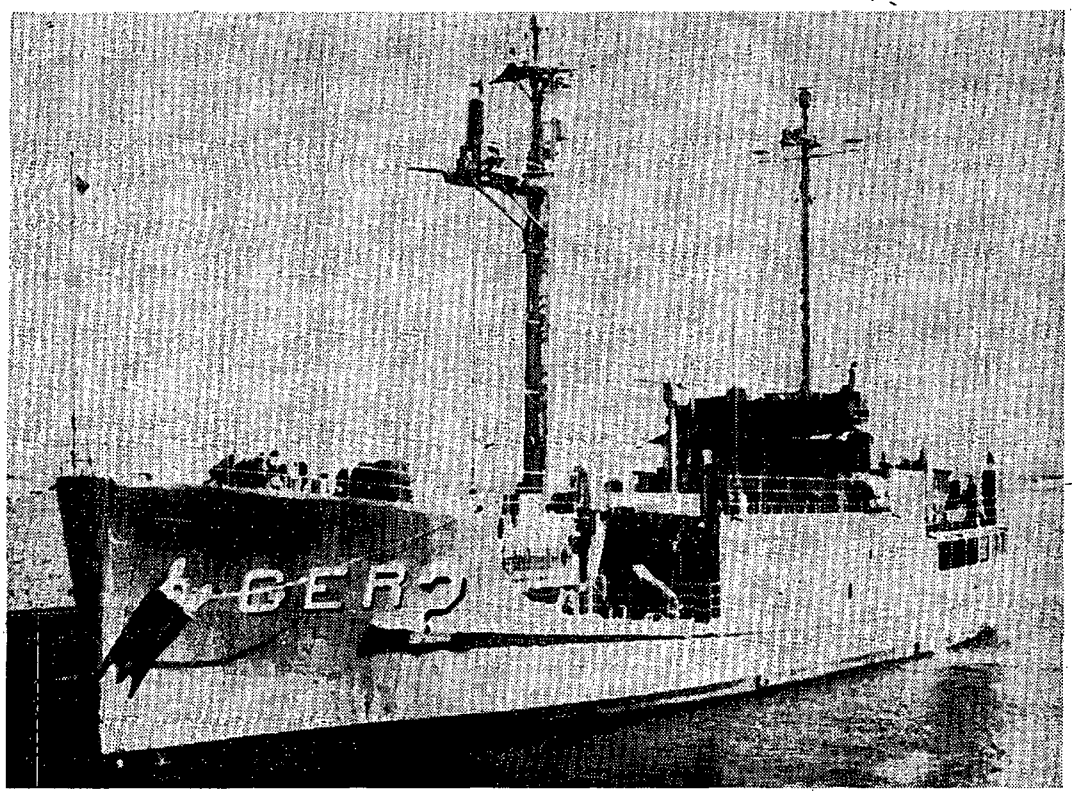
(Page 2)



USS Pueblo—intelligence ship captured by North Koreans.

Navy Photo.

Inside The News

- John Cramer has a startling story about a Court of Claims case affecting Government psychiatric examinations. Page 2.
- In the first of three articles, reporter Stanley Levey says Federal officials and civil rights groups are pressuring construction unions to admit Negroes in large numbers to membership and high income jobs. Page 7.
- The Montgomery County Education Association threatened a strike if teachers' wages aren't hiked substantially. Page 9.
- Sen. Dirksen, in his weekly column," A Senator's Notebook", today asks "what do we Americans want to do about the sad state of the out-of-date, lagging United States Merchant Marine?" and provides an answer. Page 19.
- St. Petersburg, Fla., our travel editor discovers, is now more than a paradise for oldsters. This Gulf Coast vacation center is catering to the young folks, too. The first of three articles is in our weekly travel section, Pages 26-27.

Will Bob Kennedy Run? He's Giving Fresh Thought to It

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JAN 68

Reds Force Vessel, 83 Men Into Wosan

N. Korea Seizes U.S. Ship

A North Korean naval force seized a U. S. intelligence ship on the high seas early today, the Pentagon said. As MIG fighters circled overhead, the raiders forced the lightly armed American vessel and its 83 men to put into the communist port of Wonsan.

It marked the first time in more than 100 years that an American naval ship had been captured at sea. The Pentagon said there has been no word from the U. S. S. Pueblo — armed only with two 50-caliber machine guns — since it radioed it had come to "all stop" and was going off the air shortly after midnight.

SEA OF JAPAN

The Defense Department said the Pueblo, which it acknowledged to be an intelligence-gathering vessel, was boarded in the Sea of Japan, in international waters off North Korea.

U. S. officials said efforts were being made thru Moscow to contacr North Korea for more information. The White House, the State Department and the U. S. Embassy in Moscow all refused comment for the time being.

The last incident involving a U. S. intelligence ship came June 8 during the Arab-Israeli war when the U. S. S. Liberty was attacked by Israeli planes and torpedo boats. Naval historians said there had not been an incident comparable to today's capture, however, since the Civil War.

The Pentagon said the Pueblo, about one-eighth the size of the Liberty, carried oceanographic equipment. This would include depth sounding and underwater topographical equipment as well as electonics and communications gear.

The Defense Department said the seizure took place 25 miles off the North Korean coast altho the position officials gave appeared to be as close as 17 miles to the coast. North Korea claims a twelve-mile limit for its territorial waters altho the United States recognizes only three-mile limit.

FOUR PATROL BOATS

The Pentagon said the Pueblo, described as a modified auxiliary light cargo ship, reported being surrounded by four North Korean patrol boats in international waters just before midnight and an armed boarding party took over the ship.

The vessel's last report was it was being forced into Wonsan. The Pentagon said the final message from the ship at 12:32 a. m. (EST) reported the ship ahd come to "all stop" and that it was "going off the air." The Pueblo reported it was first challenged by a single North Korean patrol boat at about 10 p. m. (EST) yesterday which messaged in international signals a request for the Pueblo's identity. The Pueblo replied it was an American ship.

The communist ship then demanded: "Heave to or I will open fire on you."

The Pueblo replied: "I am in international waters" and refused.

The communist boat did not carry out its threat to open fire but called for help. An hour later, three more armed patrol boats and two MIG jets were spotted by the Pueblo.

The Pueblo reported the ships surrounded it and the MIGs started circling off its starboard bow.

Subsequently, the Pentagon said, " a patrol craft began backing toward the bow of the Pueblo with fenders rigged.

BOARDING PARTY

"An armed boarding party was standing on the bow. The Pueblo radioed at 11:45 p. m. that she was being boarded by North Koreans.

"At 12:10 a. m. (EST) today, the Pueblo reported that she had been requested to follow the North Korean ships into Wonsan and that she had not used any weapons."

The Pueblo reported the boarding took place at 127 degrees, 54.3 minutes east longitude; 39 degrees, 25 minutes north latitude.

The location appeared to be in international waters off North Korea.

The Defense Department described the Pueblo as a "Navy intelligence collection auxiliary ship" — 179 feet long and 33 feet wide with a displacement of 906 tons, with a 10.2 foot fraft. Its maximum speed was said to be 12.2 knots.

The crew nonsists of six officers, 75 enlisted men and two civilians, the Pentagon said. (UPI)

—UPI Photo

UNREPENTANT RED—A member of a bold North Korean band of guerillas that infiltrated Seoul in an abortive attempt to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung-Hee remained defiant yesterday at a press conference. Lt. Kim Shim-jo (left) told his captors after a gun battle in which 11 were killed that "we came to the South well aware that we might be killed. I'm not sorry for anything." The communist band hoped to blow up the Presidential palace and kill not only Mr. Park but his top aides as well.

RELUCTANT REAPPRAISAL

Will RFK Shoot 68 Rapids?

By RICHARD STARNES
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D., N.Y.) is reluctantly taking a new look at his decision not to run for President in 1968 as the result of enormous pressures being exerted on him to oppose Lyndon Johnson for the Democratic nomination.

On the record, his attitude hasn't altered since early December, when he insisted he "couldn't conceive of any circumstances under which I would run in 1968."

But six weeks later, he is writhing under the drumfire of demands that he change his mind. The pleas have become so incessant that some people close to him now think it is possible he may reappraise his stand.

"The next two weeks could be very crucial," one source close to Sen. Kennedy said.

Sen. Eugene McCarthy (D., Minn.), heeding reports that Bobby may be changing his mind, vowed yesterday that Sen. Kennedy "will have a fight on his hands" if he tries to capitalize on Sen. McCarthy's Presidential campaign and grab off the nomination for himself.

But Sen. McCarthy added he did not believe Sen. Kennedy intended making such a move.

HEAVY PRESSURE

Sources close to Sen. Kennedy say the tremendous pressure on him to change his mind is being generated from three directions:

From some professionals, whose motives range from the practical (their fortunes need a shot of Kennedy glamor, to the idealistic. Sen. Kennedy is probably the only quasi-dove powerful enough to influence the Administration to soften its stand against a bombing pause in Vietnam).

From intellectuals, students and young people generally. These are the appeals that trouble Sen. Kennedy most, both on a practical and on an idealistic level. This group of voters is RFK's "seed crop" upon whom his future in 1972 and beyond must depend. Many of this group are growing openly restive at what they regard as the Senator's overly cautious pragmatism. At some of the campus rallies, Bobby has addressed recently, he has seen signs such as "Sen. Kennedy: hawk, dove — or chicken?"

From the Senator himself. He is competitive and combative by nature, and is increasingly galled by the political realities that dictate the wisdom of waiting. A challenge to LBJ this year might destroy Sen. Kennedy's political future. It would certainly sunder the Democratic Party, possibly losing Congressional seats for some of his like-minded liberal friends, and perhaps even losing the election for the Democrats.

In counseling his continued forebearance, Sen. Kennedy's closest advisers cite all these bleak facts of political life.

These arguments are calculated to appeal to the logical side of Sen. Kennedy's nature. But there is another facet to Sen. Kennedy — the idealist, the visionary, the moody, mercurial man who came away from the assassination of his brother with a powerful strain of fatalism. To the argument that good sense indicates he wait until 1972, he frequently replies that "fate has a way of taking a hand in human destiny."

In Sen. Kennedy's mind there probably is one consideration of transcendent importance. If he concludes that the Johnson Administration is unable or unwilling to make peace, and that its policies may lead to a holocaust with communist China, then he may challenge the President for the nomination — even tho he knows that he will almost certainly fail and will jeopardize his political future.

Saigon Profs: Extend Truce

SAIGON, Jan. 23 (UPI) — Sixty-five Saigon University professors today appealed to both sides in the Vietnam war to extend indefinitely the coming Lunar New Year truce and begin immediate peace negotiations.

9 to 4:30

Becoming Paranoid in 1 Easy Session

By JOHN CRAMER

A decision several days a (No. 123-63) by the U. S. Co of Claims is notable for:

• Its additional evidence the ease with which Feder employes may be victimized i casually-ordered and carele ly-conducted psychiatric exam

• Its illustration of the c lous zeal with which U. S. age cies sometime pursue their forts to retire employes on me tal disability.

• The Court's unusual action in suggesting agencies a new method of handling such cases.

ONE CASE

The case involves a woman who formerly w a GS-9 tax examiner for Internal Revenue Se ice. The Court described her as "single and . . . overweight . . . unkempt and careless in h attire . . . constantly voicing her complaints work was below par both in quantity and qua ty."

So, back back in 1960, her superiors decided get rid of her, and ordered her to take a psychi tric exam.

This was conducted by a Public Health Servi psychiatrist, who, according to the Court, "on th basis of a one-hour interview, diagnosed her co dition as 'paranoid state', and recommended th she be given disability retirement."

Internal Revenue immediately asked Civil Ser ice Commission to order her retirement. Mea time, it placed her successively on enforced si leave, annual leave, and leave-without pay.

APPEALED

The employe appealed to Civil Service Commi sion, presenting the findings of a private psychi trist who had examined her both BEFORE AN AFTER the examination by the PHS psychiatris

According to the Court, he found her "ful oriented and coherent with no thought disorde . . . He "did not think she was suffering from serious mental disorder" . . . did think "she w mentally capable of performing her duties wi IRS."

(Continued on Page 40)

Are you always thinking about finding a new job, but never doing anything about it? Time flies by so quickly! Get out of that rut and start looking.

Turn to the "Help Wanted" pages of The News and see what jobs are available. You may just see the job you've always dreamed about just waiting for the taking - by you, that is! Turn back to The Classified Section now!

The Washington Daily News

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The Weather
Today—Fair and warmer, high about 50. Sunday — Cloudy and colder. Probability of precipitation, near zero today and 20 per cent tonight. Temperature range: Today, 22-50; yesterday, 17-47. Details on Page B4.

The Washington Post

Times Herald

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Goldberg Calls on U.N. To Help Free Pueblo

AP Wirephoto

PUEBLO CAPTIVES—North Korea last night quoted the USS Pueblo skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd Bucher, as saying he and his men were in good health. Previously North Korea had distributed a photograph of Bucher "writing his confession of espionage activity" (left). His wife said it resembled him but she could not be sure. North Korea also distributed a photograph allegedly showing officers and their men after their capture (right), but did not say where the picture was taken. The Pyongyang regime also broadcast the text of an alleged interview with Bucher. Story on Page A14.

U.S. Insists Ship Was on High Seas

By Robert H. Estabrook
Washington Post Foreign Service

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 26—The United States appealed grimly to the Security Council today to help obtain return of the captured naval vessel Pueblo and its crew lest continued international inaction "be an invitation to catastrophe."

Using maps to demonstrate the position of the Pueblo, U.S. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg cited mounted North Korean as well as American broadcasts which he said proved that the ship had not been in North Korean territorial waters and was not when North Korean naval units boarded it Tuesday.

The Pueblo was at least 15 nautical miles from any North Korean territory at the time of the incident, Goldberg indicated, and had standing instructions to stay at least 12 nautical miles offshore. North Korea claims territorial waters to a 12 mile limit.

No Hot Pursuit

"I want to lay to rest—completely to rest—some intimations that the Pueblo had intruded upon the territorial waters and was sailing away from territorial waters and that the North Korean units were in hot pursuit," Goldberg asserted.

"This is not the case at all," he added, referring to a map to show that the Pueblo had approached from the southeast.

Delegates said the tense atmosphere in the Security Council was similar to that during the Cuban missile crisis, when the United States produced photographs to demonstrate the danger to members.

Soviets Blame U.S.

But the Soviet Union showed no sign here of serious concern. After criticizing the U.S. request to have the matter considered urgently and voting against adoption of the agenda, Ambassador Platon D. Morozov blamed the United States for all the tension over Korea.

The United States, he said, is motivated by a "war psychosis."

Goldberg anticipated criticisms that the Pueblo was a spy ship by asserting that Soviet communications monitoring ships are operating in the same activities and sail much closer to foreign shores.

"One such Soviet ship right now is to be found in the Sea of Japan, and currently is not far from South Korean shores," he declared.

Cites Terrorism

In addition to presenting the urgent complaint about the Pueblo, Goldberg cited a new report by the United Nations command in South Korea noting a substantial increase in instances of terrorism and sabotage perpetrated by North Korea.

During 1967 there were 568 such incidents in which 153

See NATIONS, A11, Col. 2

Uncertainty Held Back U.S. Planes

By George C. Wilson
Washington Post Staff Writer

There were plenty of American planes on hand that could have come to the rescue of the Pueblo had commanders decided that was the right move, defense officials said last night.

Fighters in Japan and Okinawa were not sent out, these officials said, because of the uncertainty of what had happened and unfavorable flying conditions.

The Pueblo was first approached by a North Korean patrol boat about 10 p.m. Monday. Commander Lloyd M. Bucher, her skipper, called for help about 11:45 p.m. when the North Koreans began boarding. The last message from the Pueblo was at 12:12 a.m.

Although the United States had few fighters in South Korea, defense officials said there was a total of about 450 attack planes that could have reached the Pueblo in a hurry from bases in Japan and Okinawa.

Japanese spokesmen have said no planes could have taken off without their advance permission. But Washington sources said yesterday

See MILITARY, A10, Col. 1

President Warns N. Korea Seizure Cannot Be Accepted

By Carroll Kilpatrick and Warren Unna
Washington Post Staff Writers

President Johnson broke his silence yesterday for the first time since North Korea seized the Pueblo by warning that the action "cannot be accepted."

Speaking from the White House on all television networks, the President said that while the United States was still pursuing diplomatic efforts to persuade North Korea to return the ship, it also was taking "certain precautionary" military steps to prepare "for any contingency that might arise in the area."

The President's brief statement was made in midafternoon following a stern State Department warning to North Korea against treating the captured crew as criminals subject to trial and punishment.

Mr. Johnson held a series of meetings with his advisers on what White House Press Secretary George Christian said was an almost continuous basis.

As other Administration statements have done, the President linked the seizure of the Pueblo with "aggressive actions" by North Korea against South Korea.

He said that the North may be attempting to "intimidate" the South and interrupt its "growing spirit of confidence and progress" and to divert South Korean and American resources from Vietnam.

Calling the ship seizure "yet another wanton and aggressive act," he said:

"Clearly this cannot be accepted."

The military actions taken in connection with the Korean crisis "do not involve a reduction in any way of our forces in Vietnam," Mr. Johnson said.

Earlier Christian was asked

See PRESIDENT, A10, Col. 1

Soviets Hint Interest In Freeing U.S. Ship

By Bernard D. Nossiter
Washington Post Foreign Service

NEW DELHI, Jan. 26 — Russian officials in Premier Kosygin's entourage indicated today that the Soviet Union is interested in freeing the USS Pueblo despite the negative signals Moscow has been broadcasting that there is a gap between Soviet actions and Moscow's first response to American requests for help. However, they would not say whether the Russians have been directly in touch with North Korea about the seized American spy ship.

The Russians draw an analogy between the incident and one involving a Soviet fishing ship picked up by the United States in Alaskan waters last March. The Russian ship, they recall, was freed after its captain paid a fine for violating American waters.

Thus, the Russians appear to be saying that if the United States acknowledges that the Pueblo was in North Korea's waters it will be released.

Premier Kosygin, who is on the second day of a week's visit to India, is staying in close touch with his capital. He has available two open telephones and teleprinters in Moscow from the Ashoka Hotel, where most of his party is staying, and from his embassy.

Last night, in a brief speech, he appeared to be taking a tough line on the crisis, denouncing "international piracy" by "imperialist states."

The Soviet leader and President Tito of Yugoslavia, an-

See KOSYGIN, A10, Col. 5

U.S. Eases Approach To Build Case for U.N.

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

News Analysis

President Johnson's short and exceedingly softly worded statement yesterday on the Pueblo incident, plus Ambassador Arthur Goldberg's presentation at the United Nations, demonstrate a clear decision to go the full diplomatic route before considering military action.

Furthermore, the two statements strongly indicate that the President will want a United Nations umbrella over any military move he might consider.

These implicit decisions rest on a simple fact: as Defense Secretary-designate Clark M. Clifford told a Senate committee on Thursday, none of the various suggestions for military action will "get our 83 men back" and that is the chief aim.

It follows, logically, that retrieval of the ship, by now doubtless picked to pieces by intelligence experts anyway, is not worth the risk of war.

Consider, first, that the President's statement yesterday afternoon seemed anticlimactic because it added nothing to the public record about the incident or the President's intentions. In fact, however, there were several key points in Mr. Johnson's handling of the incident:

* He used five paragraphs to describe North Korea's "campaign of violence"

See VIEW, A10, Col. 5

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Rep. Rivers Asks Ultimatum

Chairman L. Mendel Rivers of the House Armed Services Committee broke a generally solid cordon of congressional support for a policy of restraint yesterday by advocating a 24-hour ultimatum to the North Koreans.

Rivers, a South Carolina Democrat, said that unless the captured Navy ship Pueblo is the retired within that time, a North Korean city should be destroyed by aerial attack.

"I'd select a target," Rivers told a United Press International reporter. "I'd do like Truman did. Let one of them disappear."

The Armed Services Committee's chairman contrasted with a bipartisan chorus of endorsement for President Johnson's decision to withhold any threat of direct retaliation, while exploring diplomatic channels for the return of the surveillance ship and its crew.

While most comment was carefully nonpartisan, Rep. Melvin R. Laird (R-Wis.) suggested in an interview with the Milwaukee Journal that the Johnson Administration had been caught napping. "I thought we learned something at Pearl Harbor," Laird said. The Congressman, a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, said destroyer escort protection had been removed from the Korean area six months ago. He also said that eight fighters based at a South Korean airport within minutes' flying time of the Pueblo were not operational.

Laird also contended that the North Koreans had signaled their intention to attack the Pueblo in a radio broadcast in early January, explaining that the surveillance ship was "causing considerable difficulty."

Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) told a New York press conference "a revolt is brewing in Congress" over the Pueblo seizure. He said he would recommend an investigation of the incident by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee "unless the American people are given the facts before this weekend."

The general restraint in the comment on the incident included the remarks of two men campaigning in New Hampshire against President Johnson.

Gov. George Romney of Michigan, a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, and Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.), who is opposing Mr. Johnson for the Democratic renomination, both counseled caution.

McCarthy, while not ruling out the use of force, said in Nashua he believed the Pueblo can be recovered "without a real military exchange."

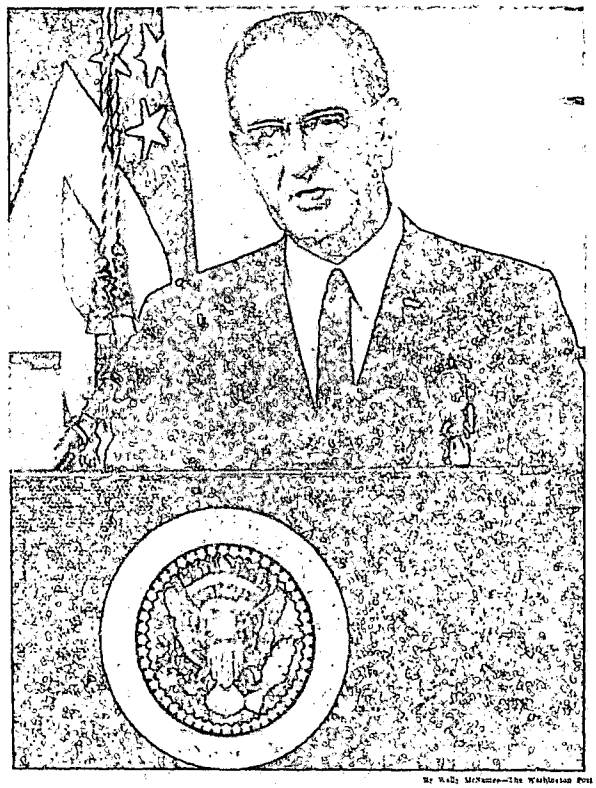
Romney, campaigning in Concord, said "we ought to use every means" to get the ship back, but added that the choice of tactics must be left to the President, because no one else has the requisite information.

A third New Hampshire visitor, retired Lt. Gen. James H. Gavin, said in Hanover he was "appalled" at the lack of air cover for the Pueblo and said "the use of force to suppress piracy" was fully justified.

Among the many statements urging restraint and commending the President's "patience" was one signed by the heads of two major Protestant denominations, the United Church of Christ, the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., the Methodist Church, the International Convention of Christian Churches and the American Baptist Convention.

However, a separate telegram from 11 other religious and civic organizations officially combined general support of the President's stand with a criticism of the mobilization of reserve forces.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana led a number of lawmakers in praising the President's stand and cautioning against any "rash act" that could lead to another Asian land war. Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) and Sen. Frank J. Lausche (D-Ohio) took similar stands. Rep. Paul Findley (R-Ill.) offered a resolution placing Congress on record in support of any action the President would take to recover the Pueblo and its crew.



By Wally McNamee—The Washington Post

The President: "I am confident the American people will exhibit . . . the determination and unity . . . to see it through."

Text of Johnson's Statement on Crisis

Text of President Johnson's message to the American people on the Pueblo crisis:

My fellow Americans:

Over the past 15 months, the North Koreans have pursued a stepped-up campaign of violence against South Korean and American troops in the area of the demilitarized zone.

Armed raider teams in large numbers have been sent into South Korea to engage in sabotage and assassination.

On Jan. 19, a 31-man team of North Korean raiders invaded Seoul with the object of murdering the president of the Republic of Korea.

In many of these aggressive actions, Korean and American soldiers have been killed and wounded.

The North Koreans are apparently attempting to intimidate the South Koreans and to interrupt the growing spirit of confidence and progress in the Republic of Korea.

These attacks may also be an attempt by the Communists to divert South Korean and United States military resources which together are resisting the aggression in Vietnam.

This week, the North Koreans committed yet another wanton and aggressive act by seizing an American ship and its crew in international waters.

Clearly, this cannot be accepted. We are doing two things.

First, we are today taking the question to the Security Council of the United Nations. The best result would be for the whole world community to persuade North Korea to return our ship and our men and to stop the dangerous course of aggression against South Korea.

We have been making other diplomatic efforts as well. We shall continue to use every means available to find a prompt and peaceful solution to the problem.

Second, we have taken and are taking certain precautionary measures to make sure that military forces are prepared for any contingency that might arise in the area. These actions do not involve a reduction in any way of our forces in Vietnam.

I have asked the North Koreans will recognize the gravity of the situation which they have created.

I am confident that the American people will exhibit in this crisis, as they have in other crises, the determination and unity which are necessary to see it through.

PRESIDENT—From Page A1

Cannot Accept Seizure, Johnson Warns N. Korea

whether Thursday's call-up of certain Air Force and Navy reservists was also required by the Vietnam situation. He replied that action was "related directly to the situation in Korea and nothing else."

The warning to North Korea not to treat the crew of the Pueblo as criminals came from the State Department after North Korea's radio in Pyongyang broadcast a commentary from the official Communist Party organ, Nodong Sinmun.

The article said that "the criminals who have violated the sovereignty of another country and perpetrated a provocative act must receive due punishment. These criminals must be dealt with by law."

Action Called Illegal

In response, State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey told his noon press briefing:

"In our view, this statement is a flagrant travesty of the facts. It is the action of North Korea which is, and has been, illegal from the outset.

"The U.S. Government would consider any such move by North Korea to be a deliberate aggravation of an already serious situation," McCloskey warned.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk, emerging from a closed meeting with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, termed the Pyongyang broadcast "reprehensible." He said if North Korea really wants to deal with the 83 captured U.S. Navy men according to law, "it would release them by sundown."

No Deadline Set

Queried by reporters regarding issuing any deadline to North Korea for the crew's return, Rusk said that while no deadline had been set, "Today would be a good time to turn it (the ship) back."

The Administration yesterday made public two other moves it has made in trying to secure the return of the Pueblo and its crew:

* The International Committee of the Red Cross has been "most urgently" requested "to intercede on behalf of the personnel . . . to inquire about their welfare and physical condition; to request their early release; and to offer ICRC assistance in arrangements for their release."

In Geneva, International Red Cross headquarters said officials already had been in contact with North Korean Red Cross authorities.

The ICRC was particularly asked to secure the repatriation of the seriously wounded. To date, Washington has been under the impression that four of the Pueblo's crew were injured, one critically, during the blowing up of the ship's detection equipment. But, at the Military Armistice Commission meeting at the Panmunjom border Tuesday night, North Korean Gen. Pak Chung Kuk referred to the "killing and wounding" of "several."

* State Department officials briefed representatives of the 13 nations who had joined the United States in providing troops for the United Nations push back of North Korea's invasion of South Korea in 1950 to 1953.

The thrust of the briefing was to emphasize the attempts being made to solve the crisis peacefully. Around a dozen of the diplomats attending, no one thought it proper to ask what might happen if the peace attempts fail.

Nations Listed

The 13 nations represented were: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

In Moscow, U.S. Ambassador Llewellyn E. Thompson called on Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko in a second attempt to get the Soviets to intercede with North Korea for release of the Pueblo and its crew. Indications were that the Soviets still have shown no interest in passing on the U.S. request.

State Department spokesman McCloskey explained that the United States now is making the same request through "A number of diplomatic channels." One of these, it was learned in Japan, the U.S. ally that lies closest to North Korea and a nation that has conducted periodic negotiations with Pyongyang in the past regarding the repatriation of Japan's many Korean-born residents.

In its attempts to gain communication with North Korea, a nation with whom the United States has no diplomatic relations, diplomats here are perusing the list of nations with whom North Korea does have ties.

This includes all the Communist nations, as well as Yugoslavia, Guinea, Mali, Algeria, Yemen, Egypt, Indonesia, Mauritania, Cambodia, Brazzaville Congo, Syria, Tanzania and Somalia.

In addition, North Korea maintains consulates general in Rangoon, New Delhi, Colombo and Baghdad.

One top foreign diplomat, Thai Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman, was in Washington yesterday to confer with Secretary of State Rusk. Thailand is known to feel that even if the United States went to war with North Korea, it is a sufficient global power to be able to maintain its campaign in Vietnam undiminished.

After he briefed members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday, Rusk told reporters the Pueblo had been in "international waters at all stages according to every indication that we have."

This gave top-level affirmation to previous Administration insistence that the Pueblo had never transgressed into Korea's territorial wa-

VIEW—From Page A1

U.S. Eases Approach to Build Case for U.N.

across the border into the Republic of Korea, apparent acts in defiance of the United Nations Command. Envoys of the 16 nations involved in the 1950-53 Korean War were called in collectively yesterday by the State Department.

* Only after acting up that international seal and U.N. context did the President come to the Pueblo affair. When he did he referred to it as "yet another" wanton and aggressive act, even though the Pueblo was outside Korean waters according to the United States and thus not a U.N. command matter.

* In making his first public comment on the crisis, the President said simply that the seizure cannot be accepted." Here he moved completely away from the verbal excitation of the past three days by Secretary of State Dean Rusk who had called the seizure an act of war" and declared that the only satisfactory result would be "the prompt, may I say immediate, release" of ship and crew.

The fact is Administration officials know in their bones there is going to be no "immediate" release of ship and crew, barring a total reversal in the lengthy record of North Korean hostility to the United States and the U.N.

The President thus was implicitly recognizing that as a fact and choosing to build the best possible record against the Pyongyang regime. Some Administration officials see the Goldberg statement as a rare opportunity for the United States to close the credibility gap with all but those who totally refuse to listen.

Mr. Johnson rattled no rockets: he spoke only of "precautionary measures" for any possible "contingency."

The combination of the President's approach allows private diplomacy an opportunity. Here the Soviet Union quite probably will have the key role, since Moscow is tied in Pyongyang by a mutual security treaty.

United Nations debate means the Soviets will back fully the North Koreans in public; what they do in private may be—Washington hopes — something else again. But it may take a good deal of time. The last two Americans, helicopter pilots, captured by the North served a year before release. The President faces a similar prospect in the case of the Pueblo's crewmen.

Finally, there is the problem the President faces here at home in terms of public outrage at the Pueblo's seizure. It is noteworthy that Mr. Johnson said nothing to inflame public feeling; he called only for "determination and unity."

A favorite Johnson expression for how to act at a moment of adversity when none of the alternatives seems very promising is to "hunker down like a jackrabbit in a hailstorm." That is what he was doing yesterday.

KOSYGIN—From Page A1

Soviets Hint Interest in Freeing Ship

other visitor here, were due to meet privately together with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for the first time tonight. The Pueblo affair was said to be one of the topics for discussion.

The trio were together in public this morning but could transact no business. They watched India's gaudy Republic Day parade. Kosygin and Tito were frequently observed conducting animated chats. Both Communist leaders looked poker-faced at the indifferent marching of Indian troops, but they beamed with delight at the gaily decorated elephants in the parade.

Tito and Kosygin sipped tea together at a garden party given by India's President, Zakir Husain, this afternoon. But the milling mob surging forward to greet them made serious talk impossible.

U.S. Gets No Hint Of Suggested Solution

The Administration indicated yesterday that its own talks with Soviet officials have brought no hint or suggestion that the Pueblo and its crew might be released if the United States apologized to North Korea for trespassing.

Since U.S. statements repeatedly have declared that the Pueblo was captured while in international waters, any such apology would represent a complete turn-around.

The Russians in New Delhi apparently were referring to the American Coast Guard's seizure of two Soviet fishing boats off Alaska last March.

The first was taken March 2 within the American three-mile territorial limit. Its skipper, charged with fishing American territorial waters, pleaded no contest. He was convicted in a Federal Court in Anchorage on March 6, fined $5000 and released at once to join his ship, which had not been held. The Soviet Embassy in Washington mailed a $5000 check for the fine within the two-week deadline set by the court.

The second ship was captured March 22 some five miles out, and was towed into port. Its captain was charged with violating a 12-mile fish-ries limit which had gone into effect only a week earlier. Tried on March 25 at the same court, he too pleaded no contest. He was convicted and fined $10,000. He stayed in jail for the two days it took a Soviet diplomat to come from Washington with the money. Then he and his ship were released.

The diplomat said the captain, in punishment, would lose his master's license for one year and be required to repay the fine to the Soviet government.

"The U.S.S.R. government respects international law and agreements signed by the government," the diplomat said, "and it takes severe measures against those masters of our fishing fleet who violate the U.S. territorial laws."

Another Soviet trawler was boarded last Aug. 4 for intruding into Alaskan waters, and was taken into port. The Soviet government paid a $20,000 out-of-court settlement.

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JAN 68

THE WASHINGTON POST Monday, Jan. 29, 1968 D 11

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

How LBJ Handled the Pueblo Crisis

By Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson

Here are the events which took place inside the White House immediately after the seizure of the USS Pueblo off the coast of North Korea.

At approximately 2:30 a.m. Jan. 24, the "Situation Room," where all "hot" information is received, notified the President that the Pueblo had been stopped and overrun by a North Korean boarding crew.

He immediately telephoned Secretary of State Rusk and Secretary of Defense McNamara and gave instructions to Walt Rostow, national security adviser, to prepare an intelligence report. Rostow arrived at the White House at 5:30 a.m. and had a comprehensive report on the President's breakfast tray at 7.

Intelligence showed that the Pueblo seizure was not an isolated incident. North Korea had staged more than 575 border raids, bombings and terrorist incidents during 1967 as compared with only 50 the year before. Three hundred people had been killed. The most daring incident was the raid, two days before, on the "Blue House," the residence of South Korean President Park in Seoul.

The Pueblo had been harassed before, but this time it was taken in as part of some definite plan. Presumably the plan was connected with the scheduled dispatch of more South Korean troops to Vietnam.

Bomb Now, Talk Later

A series of conferences with military and civilian experts followed.

The President asked probing questions, listened intently. Ordinarily he is the one who does the talking. This time he did the listening. He asked such questions as: "Where was the ship?" "Was it outside territorial waters?" "What were the orders to the ship?" "Why didn't the commander shoot back?" "Why didn't our forces in South Korea or Japan retaliate?" "How much secret electronic equipment was aboard?"

The answers included the fact that highly secret equipment was on the Pueblo. The United States has listening devices so sensitive that we can pick up messages from Soviet submarines half around the world; can listen in on a Russian pilot's conversations with the tower below him any place in the far-flung Soviet Union. Presumably the commander of the Pueblo had time only to push one or two "self-destruct" buttons. Probably most of this electronic equipment was captured.

Proposals began to pour onto the President's desk for action. One was from the Pentagon — to bomb the Pueblo as it lay in Wansan Harbor. The bombing would at least destroy the remainder of any secret equipment. Another was to seize a Russian electronic "trawler" off the United States coast where many are stationed to eavesdrop on American messages.

The President ruled these out — for the time being. He adopted as the primary American objective the return of the men and the ship. Bombing the ship would not effect its return, would kill any men who might still be quartered on it.

Since the Russians have the same stake as we do in the safety of eavesdropping ships, Ambassador Llewellyn Thompson was instructed to call on Deputy Foreign Minister Vasili Kuznetzov.

Kuznetzov studied at Carnegie Tech in Pittsburgh, is generally friendly to the U.S.A. This time, however, he was cold. He was restrained, but negative. The Russians, who always hate being put in the position of dictating to the Communist world, were not ready to oblige the United States.

However, it was learned that Premier Kosygin, a moderate, was out of town.

Thompson was instructed to call on Kuznetzov a second time. He reminded the Russian that the Soviet might have problems protecting its eavesdropping ships from irresponsible countries. The implication was that the United States also had satellites which might do to a Russian trawler what the North Koreans did to the Pueblo.

LBJ and Goldberg

After a Security Council meeting at which the President asked more questions, he breakfasted the next morning with Ambassador Arthur Goldberg. They probed how far they could go through the United Nations.

Goldberg reported that the Korean problem had been the long-standing concern of the United Nations, that nations outside the Communist bloc were anxious to avert trouble. He might be able to get action — if the Russians did not veto discussion.

The President decided to take this course.

He also decided that he must be ready for eventualities. The North Korean air force is tough and well-trained. The North Korean government had followed a pattern of harassment. Its Premier had urged diversionary tactics against the United States. What did this mean?

To be prepared for eventualities the President ordered a limited call-up of Air Force reserves. Having done this, he took time off to host a formal dinner scheduled one month earlier for the Vice President, Speaker McCormack and Chief Justice Warren.

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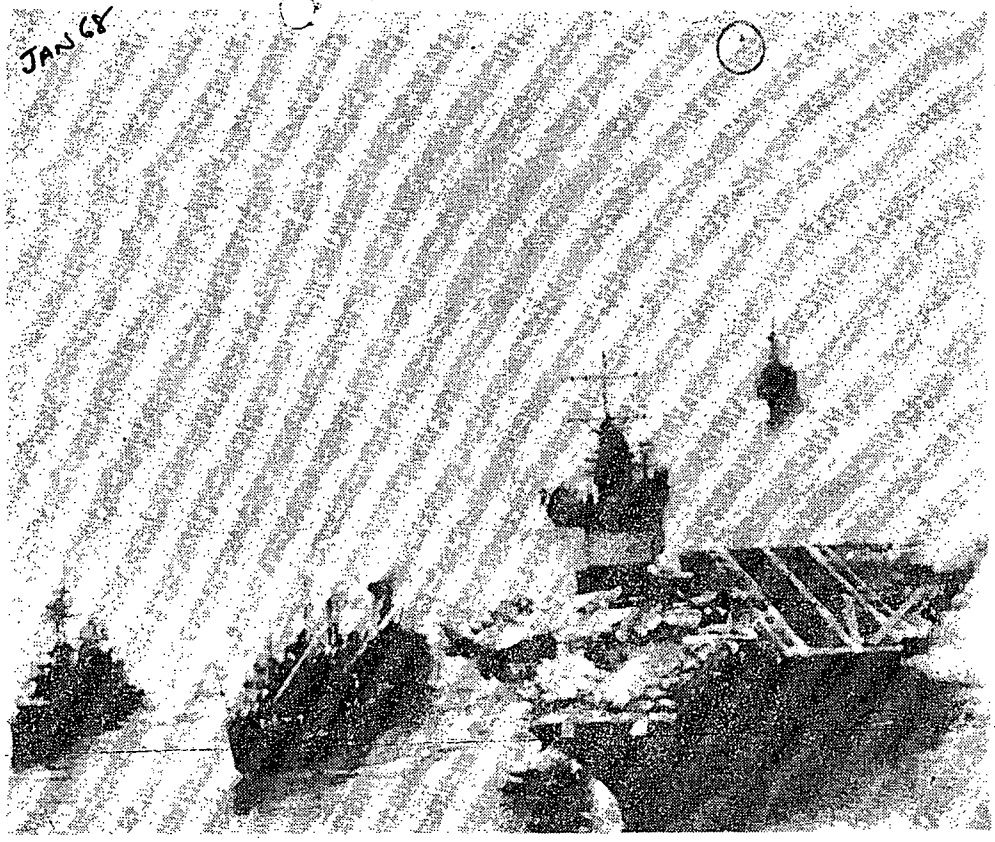

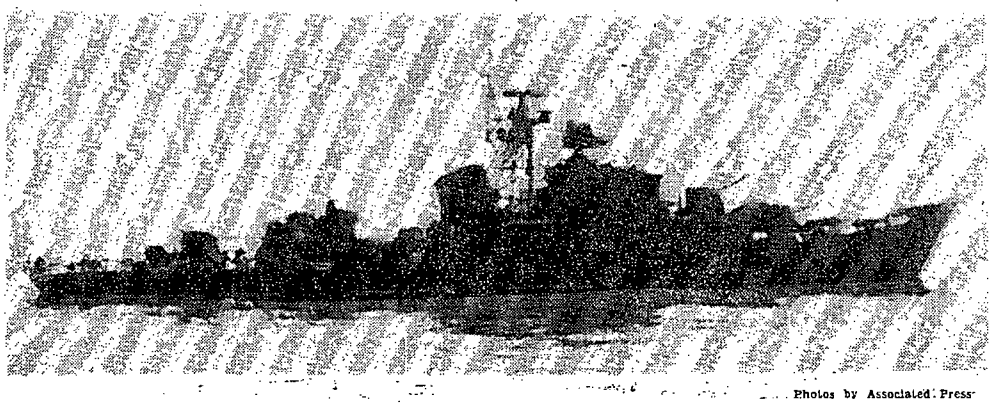

Photos by Associated Press

Camera Catches Enterprise's Shadow

The U.S. nuclear-powered carrier Enterprise is being shadowed by a Soviet destroyer and what appears to be a Soviet spy trawler, a leading Japanese newspaper said yesterday. The Enterprise was diverted from Vietnam duty to lead a task force to Korean waters after the U.S. intelligence vessel Pueblo was seized by North Korea last Tuesday.

The Asahi Shimbun published the top photograph, which it said was taken from its own plane about 90 miles east of Pohang, South Korea, early Sunday. The Enterprise and other U.S. vessels are in the foreground; and one of the alleged Soviet ships is circled at rear.

Asahi reported that the destroyer trailing the Enterprise was a 3000-ton vessel and stayed four miles away.

Bottom photo, also made by Asahi, shows another Soviet vessel reportedly spotted farther south, in the Tsushima Strait. The 1200-ton, missile-equipped ship was believed watching for other U.S. naval reinforcements.

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THE WASHINGTON POST
Saturday, Jan. 27, 1968 A 11

S. Koreans Are Nervous; Soviets Seem Oblivious

U.N. Action Discounted In Seoul

By Richard Halloran
Washington Post Foreign Service

SEOUL, Jan. 26 — South Korean officials today expressed mild approval of U.S. military deployment for possible action against North Korea, but they were dubious that taking the crisis to the United Nations would accomplish anything.

A government spokesman said that President Johnson has shown "firm determination" to stop "aggressive acts of provocation." He called on North Koreans "to repent of the crimes they have already committed" and return the captured USS Pueblo and its crew before North Korea is dealt "strong reprisals."

The U.S. military moves include stationing the aircraft carrier Enterprise within striking distance of North Korea, moving two fighter squadrons from Okinawa to Korea, and calling up some U.S. reserves. South Korea reportedly is also considering a reserves callup.

On the American decision to take the conflict to the Security Council, one Korean official said, "All they do is sit around and talk." Others noted that North Korea has never recognized the competence of the United Nations to deal with any Korean problems.

Diplomatic Moves

Foreign Minister Chae Kru-Ha today called in all ambassadors, including the French dean of the diplomatic corps, to discuss Sunday's attempted assassination of President Park Chung Hee.

Choe also instructed the South Korean U.N. observer, Kim Young Shik, to deliver a letter to Secretary General U Thant setting forth the South Korean case.

The South Korean government and people are still nervous about what the United States will do if the diplomatic approach fails, as they expect. Two reports that the United States had advised Seoul of American readiness to strike North Korea if diplomacy does not succeed were firmly denied by both U.S. and South Korean officials.

In a sidelight, there was a flurry of excitement when a Korean newsman noticed an American selling furniture in preparation for leaving Seoul. Although this is an everyday occurrence here, the Koreans read it as a sign of pullout if there is a war.

No Panic

Seoul generally was calm. The nighttime curfew has been moved back to the usual midnight deadline although security precautions after midnight are extremely strict. Nervous guards with fingers on rifle triggers stopped one vehicle six times last night in less than two miles.

But this morning the skating pond in front of the Duk Soo Palace in the center of Seoul was full of children bundled in bright sweaters against Korea's clear but bitter cold winter. Night life is reviving in this usually fun-loving city.

On the military front, another American soldier was killed this morning near the Demilitarized Zone in a fire fight with North Koreans. U.S. and South Korean troops continued to round up remnants of the 31-man team that tried to kill President Park. They have killed 24 and captured one since Sunday.

North Korea reportedly has put its entire military force into full mobilization but has not yet mobilized its 1.2 million militiamen. Korean military sources reported that North Korean Migs flew about 40 sorties near the DMZ today.

This crisis has led to some political cohesion between the governing and opposition parties, at odds since last spring's election in which both admitted to irregularities.

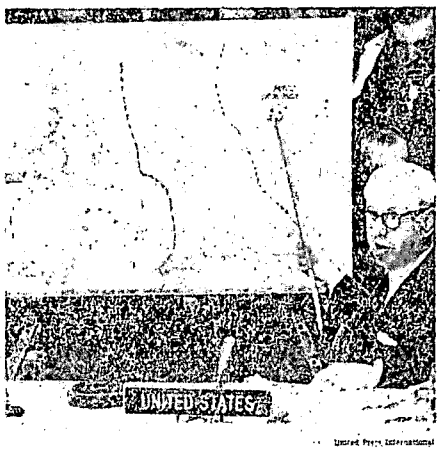
Government and opposition leaders have been meeting, the government is briefing the opposition on the situation, and a joint inspection team visited anti-infiltration operations headquarters and troops today.

Enterprise Reported In S. Korea Port

SEOUL, Jan. 26 (UPI) — A report published tonight by the newspaper Hankook Ilbo said the U.S. carrier Enterprise, last reported off North Korea, had changed course and entered the South Korean port of Pohang, about 170 miles southeast of Seoul. The newspaper quoted South Korean military sources.

There was no confirmation reported that additional U.S. submarines had been assigned to waters off Korea.

A report by the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency said the U.S. embassy and the American Ambassador's residence had been among the original targets of the Communist infiltrators Sunday, but the plan was revised shortly before the attack.



United Press International

Ambassador Goldberg uses a map in stating the U.S. view in the Pueblo crisis.

NATIONS—From Page A1

Ship Appeal Taken to U.N.

persons were killed. The incidents culminated this week in an attempt by 31 specially trained agents to assassinate President Park Chung Hee of South Korea.

The United States requested the Security Council meeting, Goldberg said at the outset, "to consider the grave threat to peace which the authorities of North Korea have brought about by their increasingly dangerous and aggressive military actions in violation of the Korean armistice agreements of 1953 and of the United Nations Charter and of international law."

The United States has stated its desire to settle the matter promptly and peacefully "and if at all possible by diplomatic means," he continued.

"The existing situation cannot be allowed to stand. It must be corrected and the Council must face up to its responsibility to see it corrected. This course is far more preferable to other remedies which the Charter reserves to member states."

The last sentence was a possible reference to unilateral military action by the United States under article 51 of the Charter covering the right of self-defense.

Goldberg referred to a broadcast by the Pueblo at noon last Tuesday, the time of the incident, saying it was stopped dead at a position 25 nautical miles from the North Korean port of Wonsan, 163 from the nearest point of the mainland and 15.3 from the nearest North Korean island.

An intercepted broadcast from North Korean sub chaser 35, which accosted the Pueblo, placed a position a mile farther offshore, he asserted.

He also cited broadcasts ordering North Korean vessels to make the Pueblo their target. Four surrounded the Pueblo and ordered it to heave to or face fire.

Intrusion Denied

The North Koreans knew that the Pueblo was lightly armed and "in no position to engage in a hostile, warlike act," Goldberg continued. One North Korean broadcast even referred to the vessel as unarmed, he said.

The Pueblo had come from the southeast, Goldberg said, referring to a map to show its course. He added:

"It is incontrovertible from this type of evidence, which is physical evidence of International Morse Code signaling and voice reports, that the Pueblo when first approached and when seized was in international waters, well beyond the 12-mile limit, and that the North Koreans knew this."

The seizure of the ship and crew, he said, is "an act which no member of the United Nations could tolerate."

But none of this impressed Morozov, who waved aside the statistics and repeated North Korean claims that the Pueblo had come within 7.6 nautical miles of the shore. He referred to a confession allegedly broadcast by the Pueblo's captain, Lindr. Lloyd M. Bucher.

Goldberg Angered

This infuriated Goldberg. Referring to the "so-called confession" in reply, he said he recognized "the Soviet experience in covered and fabricated confessions."

Morozov, however, reverted to his insistence that U.S. forces in South Korea — the remnants of the United Nations Command which repelled a North Korean invasion in 1950—are the cause of all the trouble. This is a line which the Soviet Union tried hard to press in the General Assembly last fall.

Another Communist delegate said that Morozov had no instructions from Moscow as of noon today and that he would engage in a holding operation.

Ironically, Morozov was filling in for the newly designated Soviet permanent representative to the United Nations, Deputy Foreign Minister Jakob Malik. A walkout by Malik from the Security Council in the spring of 1950 enabled the Council to escape a Soviet veto in setting up a unified command in the Korean war with the U.S. as its agent.

What the United States can expect to gain from the discussion in the Security Council other than to dramatize the incident and bring diplomatic pressure on North Korea remains unclear.

Council President Agha Shahi of Pakistan set another Council meeting for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, but no one believes that any resolution to condemn North Korea could survive a Soviet veto. Even a resolution urging release of the Pueblo and its crew and respect for the 1953 armistice might encounter a veto. The United States has proposed no resolution so far.

But Canadian Ambassador George Ignatieff suggested the dispatch of a special U.N. representative to exercise good offices in the Korean situation. The Council should lose no time "in bringing the healing touch of diplomacy to bear," he said.

In preliminary sparring today the Soviet Union, Hungary and Algeria voted against the procedural motion to adopt the agenda. Several other delegations which voted for adoption made clear that they were not committed to support any particular action.

U.S. Envoy Reacts, But Not Kremlin

By Anatole Shub
Washington Post Foreign Service

MOSCOW, Jan. 26—Once again, as in many a historic crisis, Moscow seems the calmest city in the world.

Newspapers report on the Pueblo affair on inside pages, giving greater stress to Premier Kosygin's visit to India, the 1962 crash in Greenland, the 1967 Soviet economic statistics and the 50th birthday greetings sent to Rumanian President Nicolae Ceaucescu.

The papers, and medium-level Soviet officials encountered at various diplomatic receptions, are running half a day or more behind events—and offer little or no indication that the Soviet Union is in any way involved in the crisis. The press did not report that Kosygin had termed the Pueblo's activities "piratey" or that America is seeking Soviet intercession with Pyongyang.

Same in 1941

To old Moscow hands, all this seems normal.

One veteran recalled that the city had only begun to stir at noon on June 22, 1941, eight hours after the Nazis had crossed the Soviet frontiers.

Western diplomats, too, contribute their share to the "eye of the hurricane" calm. Newsmen only learned that U.S. Ambassador Llewellyn Thompson was conferring with Soviet officials today by accident—en route to a reception, several reporters noticed the ambassadorial Lincoln with Stars and Stripes flying outside the Foreign Ministry.

The Ambassador later admitted it was his car but said nothing else about his mission. Still later an informed source owned up to the fact that Thompson had been seeing "them" indeed, "virtually every day."

In Washington it was learned that Thompson saw Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko today but got no further than during his earlier attempt in trying to persuade the Soviet Union to press Pyongyang to return the Pueblo and its crew.

Back at Work

The Soviet news agency Tass had disclosed on Monday that Thompson had seen Kosygin, and Secretary of State Dean Rusk had disclosed Tuesday that Thompson had met Soviet Deputy Minister Vassily Kuznetsov. But today's talks—plus anything the Ambassador may have been doing Wednesday and Thursday—remain top secret so far as Muscovites are concerned.

Nevertheless, it was apparent, from the light in his eye as well as his legendary discretion, that "Tommy" is "hard at work again." For some months, the Ambassador's well-wishers here had been fretting that America's most skillful and experienced negotiator was being given nothing much to negotiate.

Veteran probes were being conducted almost everywhere else, and discussions on the missile race, proposed by the United States almost a year ago, have yet to get off the ground. It is clear today, however, that at least one particular national resource is very much back in business.

Other Western diplomats seem agreed that the Pueblo incident is not a result of Soviet instigation, that it is presenting the Soviet leaders with very ticklish decisions, and that American publicizing of the effort to obtain Soviet mediation will not make it easier for the Russians.

The publicity inevitably gives to the Soviet stand at the U.N. Security Council is also considered likely to be unwelcome to the Kremlin. If the Soviet leaders are to exercise any sort of influence on the North Koreans, it is said here, they would doubtless prefer to do so in utmost secrecy—now virtually impossible. Now, the Chinese are poised and ready, pen in hand, to denounce anything that remotely resembles Soviet-American "collusion" in "betraying" the North Koreans.

Such, at least, is the thinking among the relative handful of Western observers with privileged access to outside news sources—while Moscow sleeps.

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U.S. Statement on 'the Grave Threat to Peace' in Korea

Reuters

The text of the statement by U.S. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg to the United Nations Security Council:

The United States has requested this meeting, as I stated in my letter to you, to consider the grave threat to peace which the authorities of North Korea have brought about by their increasingly dangerous and aggressive military actions in violation of the Korean armistice agreement of 1953, of the United Nations Charter, and of international law.

We have asked that the Council be convened at an hour when peace is in serious and imminent danger action is required to avert—when firm and forthwith that danger and preserve peace.

A virtually unarmed vessel of the United States Navy, sailing on the high seas, has been wantonly and lawlessly seized by armed North Korean patrol boats, and her crew forcibly detained. This warlike action carries a danger to peace which should be obvious to all.

A party of armed raiders, infiltrated from North Korea, has been intercepted in the act of invading the South Korean capital city of Seoul with the admitted assignment of assassinating the president of the Republic of Korea. This event marks the climax of a campaign by the North Korean authorities, over the past 18 months, of steadily growing infiltration, sabotage and terrorism in flagrant violation of the Korean armistice agreement.

Parallel Actions

Mr. President, these two lines of action are manifestly parallel. Both stem from North Korea. Both are completely unwarranted and unjustified. Both are aimed against peace and security in Korea. Both violate the United Nations Charter, solemn international agreements, and time-honored international law. And both pose a grave threat to peace in a country whose long search for peace and reunification in freedom has been an historic concern to the United Nations and of my country.

We bring these grave developments to the attention of the Security Council in the sincere hope that the Council will act promptly to remove the danger to international peace and security. For Mr. President, it must be removed and without delay. And it will be removed only if action is taken forthwith to secure the release of the USS Pueblo and its 83-man crew and to bring to an end the pattern of armed transgressions by North Korea against the Republic of Korea. My government has stated at the highest level our earnest desire to settle this matter promptly and peacefully and, if at all possible, by diplomatic means.

It is testimony to this desire that infidelity to the charter my government has brought this matter to the Security Council which has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, and which, together with other organs of the United Nations, has a special, an historic concern for peace and security in Korea.

Responsibility

It is imperative, therefore, that the Security Council act with the greatest urgency and decisiveness. The existing situation cannot be allowed to stand. It must be corrected and the Council must face up to its responsibility to see it corrected. This course is far more preferable to other remedies which the charter reserves to member states.

Let me now turn to the facts concerning these two aspects of North Korean aggressive conduct on which the Council's action is urgently required.

At 12 noon on January 23, Korean time, the United States Ship Pueblo manned, by a crew of six officers, 75 enlisted men, and two civilians, and sailing in international waters off the North Korean coast, was confronted by a heavily armed North Korean patrol boat identified as submarine chaser Number 35.

The strict instructions under which the Pueblo was operating required it to stay at least 13 nautical miles from the North Korean coast. While my country adheres to the three-mile rule of international law concerning territorial waters, nevertheless the ship was under orders whose effect was to stay well clear of the 12-mile limit which the North Korean authorities have by long practice followed.

The USS Pueblo reported this encounter and its location at the time in the following words—and I wish to quote exactly what was reported by radio at the time of the encounter—"USS Pueblo encountered one SO-1 class North Korean patrol craft at 0300"—that is at 12 noon Korean time—and then, I am repeating its broadcast—"position 39-25.2 NL 127-53.0 EL. DIW." I might explain that DIW means "dead in water," the standard terminology meaning that all engines are stopped and the vessel was stationary.

The Map

Now, with your permission, Mr. President, I should like to refer to this map provided for the convenience of the Council and show the exact location of the Pueblo as given in these coordinates. If the members of the Council will look at the map, you will see a Number 3 blue, Number 3 blue is approximately 25 nautical miles from the port of Wonsan. It is 18.3 nautical miles from the nearest point of the North Korean mainland on the peninsula of Hodo-Pando, and 15.3 nautical miles from the island of Ung-do.

Now, at exactly the same time, the North Korean submarine chaser Number 35 which intercepted the Pueblo reported its own location in the Number 3 red—and this is a report now from the North Korean submarine chaser Number 35 monitored by us—and that location was 39 degrees 25 minutes north latitude and 127 degrees 56 minutes east longitude. You will note the positions. In other words, these two reported positions are within a mile of one another and show conclusively that according to the North Korean report, as well as our own, that the Pueblo was in international waters.

Oral Message

The report of its location by the North Korean craft, made by international morse code, was followed ten minutes later by the following oral message from the North Korean craft to its base, and I quote it: "We have approached the target here, the name of the target is GER 1-2."

Now, we talk about the Pueblo and that is the name by which the ship is, of course, known. But the technical name for this ship is GER 2 and this name was painted on the side of the ship.

The message continued, and I again quote the Korean radio message in Korean words: "Get it? GER 1-2; did you get it? So our control target is GER 1-2. I will send it again. Our control target is GER 1-2."

Inasmuch as the location of the Pueblo is of course a matter of vital importance, it is important to the Council to know that the information available to the United States as reported by our vessel to our authorities and to the North Korean authorities as reported by its vessel and transmitted by its own ship was virtually identical, with only this small margin of difference. And, interestingly enough, the North Korean ship reported the Pueblo to be about a mile farther away from the shoreline than the United States fix of its position. So you see, the North Korean broadcast, monitored, was reporting what I have stated to this Council.

Mr. President, we have numerous other reports during this encounter consistent with the location I have described. And information other than coordinates corroborative of what I have said is by voice monitor. Information on coordinates, as I said, was by international morse code.

'Heave To'

The North Korean patrol boat, having made its approach, used international flag signals to request the Pueblo's nationality. The Pueblo, replying with the same signal system, identified herself as a United States vessel. The North Korean vessel then signalled: "Heave to or I will open fire on you." The Pueblo replied: "I am in international waters."

The reply was not challenged by the North Korean vessel, which under international law, if there had been an intrusion—which there was not—should have escorted the vessel from the area in which it was. However, that vessel then proceeded for approximately an hour to circle the Pueblo, which maintained its course and kept its distance from the shore. At that point three additional North Korean armed vessels appeared, one of which ordered the Pueblo: "Follow in my wake." As this order was issued, the four North Korean vessels closed in on the Pueblo and surrounded it. At the same time two Mig aircraft appeared overhead and circled the Pueblo. The Pueblo attempted peacefully to withdraw from this encirclement but was forcibly prevented from doing so and brought to a dead stop. It was then seized by an armed boarding party and forced into the North Korean port of Wonsan.

Now, reports from the North Korean naval vessels on their location and on their seizure of the Pueblo at this point show that the Pueblo was constantly in international waters.

At 1:50 p.m. Korean time, within a few minutes of the reported boarding of the Pueblo, North Korean vessels reported their position at 39-26 NL 128-02 EL or about 21.3 miles from the nearest North Korean land. This is the point on the map here. And we would be very glad, Mr. President, to make this map available for the records of the Security Council.

Denies Intrusion

Now, Mr. President, I want to lay to rest—completely to rest—some intimations that the Pueblo had intruded upon the territorial waters and was sailing away from territorial waters and that the North Korean ships were in hot pursuit. This is not the case at all and I shall demonstrate it by this map.

Now, we will show by times and the course of the vessel exactly what occurred and you will see from this that the location of the Pueblo was constantly far away from Korean shores, always away from the 12-mile limit until it was taken into Wonsan by the North Korean vessels. The locations of the Pueblo are shown on the blue line and the location of the SO-1 035, the first North Korean vessel, on the red line.

Now, the Pueblo, far from having sailed from inside territorial waters to outside territorial waters, was cruising in an area—in this area—and this will be demonstrated by the time sequence—and when I say, "this area," I mean the area that is east and south of any approach to the 12-mile limit.

At 0630 Korean local time, the Pueblo was at the location I now point to on the map. It had come to that point from the southeast, not from anywhere in this vicinity. And that is point one on the map so that our record will be complete. Point two on the map shows the position of the North Korean submarine chaser number 35 as reported by her at 10:55, and you will see that she is close to—the North Korean vessel, not the Pueblo — the 12-mile limit.

Point number three is the position reported by the Pueblo at 12 o'clock noon and you will see that she is a considerable distance from the 12-mile limit, which is the dotted line.

Red point number three is the position reported by the North Korean submarine chaser number 35 at 12 o'clock noon, when it signalled the Pueblo to stop. In other words, this is the position of the North Korean vessel, this is the position of the Pueblo; and the position of the North Korean vessel that I point to, the red line, the position audibly by the North Korean vessel. There is very little difference in these two reports.

Point number four is the position reported by the North Korean vessel at 13:50, 1:50 p.m., when she reported boarding the Pueblo. And you will recall that I just told the Council that the Pueblo, seeking to escape the encirclement, did not move in the direction which would have transgressed the 12-mile limit.

Now, all of this is verified not by reports solely from the Pueblo; all of this is verified by reports from the North Korean vessels which were monitored and I think it is a very clear picture of exactly what transpired.

Here, too, Mr. President, with your permission, we will make this available.

North Koreans' Intent

Mr. President, it is incontrovertible from this type of evidence, which is physical evidence of International Morse Code signals and voice reports, that the Pueblo when first approached and when seized, was international waters, well beyond the 12-mile limit; and that the North Koreans knew this.

Further compounding this offense against international law, and the gravity of this warlike act, is the fact that the North Koreans clearly intended to capture the Pueblo, knowing that it was in international waters, and force it to sail into the port of Wonsan. This aim is made clear by messages exchanged among the North Korean vessels themselves which we monitored, including the following: "By talking this way, it will be enough to understand according to present instructions we will close down the radio, tie up the personnel, tow it and enter port at Wonsan. At present we are on our way to boarding. We are coming in." This is an EACT voice broadcast from the ship which acknowledges the instructions that it was following.

Now, Mr. President, in light of this, this was no mere incident, no case of mistaken identity, no case of mistaken location. It was nothing less than a deliberate, premeditated, armed attack on a United States naval vessel on the high seas, an attack whose gravity is underlined by these simple facts which I should now like to sum up.

The location of the Pueblo in international waters was fully known to the North Korean authorities since the broadcasts were not only between its own ships but were directed to its shore installations.

The Pueblo was so lightly armed that the North Koreans in one of the conversations which we have monitored even reported it as unarmed.

The Pueblo was therefore in no position to engage in a hostile, warlike act towards the territory or vessels of North Korea; and the North Koreans knew this.

Nevertheless, the Pueblo, clearly on the high seas, was forcibly stopped, boarded and seized by North Korean armed vessels. This is a knowing and willful aggressive act—part of a deliberate series of actions in contravention of international law and of solemn international arrangements designed to keep peace in the area, which apply not only to land forces but to naval forces as well. It is an action which no member of the United Nations could tolerate.

I might add, in light of the comments of the distinguished Soviet representative on the adoption of the agenda, that Soviet ships engaged in exactly the same activities as the Pueblo sail much closer to the shores of other states. And one such Soviet ship right now is to be found in the Sea of Japan, and currently is not far from South Korean shores.

Turns to Infiltration

I turn now to the other grave category of aggressive actions taken by the North Korean authorities: Their systematic campaign of infiltration, sabotage and terrorism across the armistice demarcation line. In gross violation of the armistice agreement—not only in the vicinity of the Demilitarized Zone but also in many cases deep in the territory of the Republic of Korea — culminating in the recent raid against the capital city of Seoul, the Presidential Palace and the person of the President of the Republic.

The gravity of this campaign has already been made known to the Security Council. Last Nov. 2 I conveyed to the Council a report from the United Nations Command in Korea, summing up the evidence of a drastic increase in violations by North Korea of the Korean armistice agreement and subsequent agreement pertaining thereto. This report, Security Council Document S/8217 noted that the number of incidents involving armed infiltrators from North Korea had increased from 50 in 1966 to 543 in the first ten months of 1967; and that the number of soldiers and civilians killed by these infiltrators had increased from 35 in 1966 to 144 in the same period of 1967. The further report of the United Nations Command for the whole year 1967, filed today, shows a total of 566 incidents for 1967 and a total of 153 individuals killed by the North Korean infiltrators. The United Nations Command in its report has further pointed out that, although North Korea had refused all requests by the United Nations Commandin for investigation of these incidents by joint observer teams pursuant to the armistice agreement, the evidence that the attacks had been mounted from North Korea is incontestable. This evidence is subject to verification by these reports, which are on file with the Security Council.

The terrorist campaign, Mr. President, has now reached a new level of outrage. Last Sunday, Jan. 21, security forces of the Republic of Korea made contact with a group of some 30 armed North Koreans near the Presidential Palace in Seoul. In a series of engagements, both in Seoul and between Seoul and the Demilitarized Zone, lasting through Jan. 24, about half of this group were killed and two captured. It has now been ascertained that the infiltration team totaled 31 agents, all with the rank of lieutenant or higher, dispatched from the 124th North Korean Army unit; that these agents had received two years' training including two weeks of training for the present mission, in special camps established in North Korea for this purpose; and that their assigned mission included the assassination of the president of the Republic of Korea.

I might add, Mr. President, that the North Korean authorities make no secret of the political strategy and motivation behind these attacks. Their daily propaganda vilifies the government of the Republic of Korea and denies its very right to exist. Yet, Mr. President, this same government of the Republic of Korea is recognized by 77 governments, is a member of numerous specialized agencies of the United Nations and enjoys observer status at the United Nations Headquarters.

Increase in Tempo Seen

Mr. President, it is obvious that this long series of attacks by North Korean infiltrators across the Demilitarized Zone — and by other groups of North Korean armed personnel which, traveled by sea, have penetrated into even the southern portions of South Korea — has steadily increased in its tempo and its scope — until it threatens to undermine the whole structure of the armistice regime, under which peace has been preserved in a divided Korea for 14 years.

In the interest of international peace and security, this deterioration cannot be allowed to continue. It must be reversed promptly. The armistice agreements must be restored to their full vigor, and the weight of the influence of the Security Council must be exerted to this vitally important end.

Mr. President, these are the facts of the threat to peace created by North Korea's aggressive actions on sea and land. With all earnestness I ask the Security Council to act firmly and swiftly to rectify this dangerous situation and eliminate this threat to peace. Despite the most serious provocation — a provocation which every nation would recognize as serious and dangerous—my government is exercising great restraint in this matter. We seek to give the processes of peaceful action all possible scope. We believe these processes can work swiftly and effectively, if the international community — including the members of this Council, individually and collectively, so will it.

But, Mr. President, these peaceful processes must work. The present situation is not acceptable and it cannot be left to drift. This great and potent organization of peace must not let the cause of peace in Korea be lost by default to the high-handed tactics of a lawless regime. Such a course would be an invitation to catastrophe.

Therefore, let the Security Council, with its great influence, promptly and effectively help to secure forthwith the safe return of the Pueblo and her crew, and to restore to full vigor and effectiveness the Korean armistice agreement.

Fellow members of the Security Council, we have a clear and urgent responsibility under the Charter to help keep the peace. I trust the Council will discharge this responsibility.

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Why the U. S. Treads Cautiously

Russ & China Pledged to N. Korea

By DAN THOMASSON
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

A major reason for Administration caution in the Pueblo incident is North Korea's military ties with both Russia and Red China committing both nuclear powers to come to her aid if attacked.

These treaties, Secretary of State Dean Rusk has warned Congressional leaders, make the present crisis more of a threat to world peace than any such confrontation at least since the Cuban missile crisis.

The mutual assistance pacts North Korea signed separately with Russia and Red China were the center of what was described as a "tense" discussion involving Mr. Rusk and members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday.

One committee member, Sen. Albert Gore (D., Tenn.), told Scripps-Howard Newspapers after the meeting that seldom has the threat of world war been more imminent.

'MORE PROVOCATIVE'

Sen. Gore said existence of the treaties makes N. Korea's seizure of the USS Pueblo "much more provocative" than the Tonkin Gulf incident which led the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam, which has no such treaties with Russia or Red China.

The U.S. has similar bilateral mutual military assistance pacts with both South Korea and Japan. U.S. involvement in South Vietnam, however, stems from South Vietnam's membership in the South East Asian Treaty Organization.

"This could be the real confrontation between the Free World and International Communism, much more than Vietnam," Sen. Gore said.

Sen. Gore said after the meeting he was not optimistic about the diplomatic attempts to reach a peaceful solution. But he said the U.S. still has diplomatic alternatives to follow should the effort to win release of the Pueblo thru the United Nations fail.

"You can't rule out the necessity of using force," Sen. Gore said.

The treaty between the Soviet Union and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) provides:

"Should either of the contracting parties suffer armed attack by any state or coalition of states and thus find itself in a state of war, the other contracting party shall immediately extend military and other assistance with all the means at its disposal."

North Korea's treaty with Red China, signed at Peking on July 11, 1961, provides:

"The contracting parties undertake jointly to adopt all measures to prevent aggression against either of the contracting parties by any state. In the event of one of the contracting parties being subjected to armed attack by any state or several states jointly and thus being involved in a state of war, the other contracting party shall immediately render military and other assistance by all means at its disposal."

Foreign Relations Committee sources said the Administration hopes that, since Russia's treaty with North Korea might commit her to a new Asian war, the Soviet Union eventually will warn the North Koreans to go slow.

ONE REASON

They said this was given as one of the reasons the Administration has been patient in its efforts to invoke Russia's help to solve the crisis short of war.

Seldom has Mr. Rusk seemed more grim than when he appeared before reporters after the committee meeting. He reiterated that the seizure amounted to "piracy on the high seas" and said if the North Koreans follow international law they would release the ship and her crew "before sundown."

Mr. Rusk said the Pueblo was in international waters "at all stages."

—AP1 Photo

North Korea released this picture purportedly showing crewmen of the USS Pueblo being herded into custody in the port of Wonsan.

The Question: Will Reds Talk to Him?

UN May Send Emissary to N. Korea

By R. H. BOYCE
Scripps-Howard Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, Jan. 27 — The groundwork was laid today for a possible first step by the United Nations Security Council toward solving the problem of the captured USS Pueblo.

As the Council prepared for a second round of crisis debate, there were indications it might consider authorizing Secretary General Thant to send an emissary or go himself to Korea to negotiate for the release of the Navy intelligence ship and its 83-man crew.

North Korea, however, is not a UN member and it was uncertain whether its communist government would talk to such an emissary.

The suggestion for sending a UN negotiator to Korea came from George Ignatieff, Canada's delegate in the 15-nation peacekeeping body. He called it "one possible way, the Council might help in resolving the problem."

LOW-KEYED SESSION

Mr. Ignatieff's suggestion came early in yesterday's initial two-hour session — a meeting marked by surprisingly low-key debate and without an expected wrangle over procedure.

The Russians lost a bid to keep the Security Council from taking up the Pueblo incident. But several nations indicated their vote to accept debate did not necessarily mean acceptance of the U. S. position on the issue itself.

The tone of the debate was set by U. S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg, who spoke softly as he warned that "peace is in danger" in Korea and urged the Council to take prompt and effective action.

This, Mr. Goldberg said, would be "far more preferable than other remedies" — a hint that the U.S. might be forced to use military measures to recover the ship and its crew.

Mr. Goldberg coupled the capture of the Pueblo with an intensified North Korean campaign of infiltration and terrorism in South Korea, culminating in the abortive attempt last Sunday to murder South Korean President Park Chung Hee.

But he saved his big guns to knock down the North Korean — and the Soviet — claim that the Pueblo had intruded into North Korean territorial waters.

He noted that the Soviet Union has ships which do what the Pueblo was doing — gathering intelligence information — and added: "Today a Soviet warship is doing the same thing just off the coast of South Korea."

Using two maps and a schoolteacher's pointer, Mr Goldberg identified the Pueblo's position as having been well beyond North Korea's 12-mile territorial limit.

Then he threw his bombshell. The Pueblo's actual position was known, he said, because U. S. monitoring stations had picked up morse code messages from the North Korean patrol boats to their own shore stations. The messages gave the position of the Pueblo as Mr. Goldberg gave it, and said the North Korean boats which captured the navy ship were at the same spot.

He read copies of North Korean voice messages he said the U. S. had monitored. These showed the North Koreans had put to sea intending to capture the Pueblo and when they came across it, identified it vocally to their shore stations as "our target."

Diplomats Meet, Reserves Assemble

Hope for Best, Gird for Worst

The United States, hoping for the best but preparing for the worst, pressed on diplomatic and military fronts today for an end to North Korea's "unacceptable" detention of the USS Pueblo.

In line with measures spelled out by President Johnson in an address to the nation yesterday U. S. diplomats searched for a bloodless solution to the crisis while military authorities moved to make sure America's forces "are prepared for any contingency that might arise."

The UN Security Council was reconvening to resume its emergency session on the seizure.

RESERVES ASSEMBLE

More than 14,600 air reservists called to active duty, meantime, were assembled with their units today and standing by for deployment orders. The nuclear carrier USS Enterprise and its task force remained on alert at Pohang, South Korea.

Mr. Johnson, grim and subdued, demonstrated determination to explore all possible diplomatic solutions while the threat of force is held in the background.

In other developments:

• Pentagon officials said the presence of a Soviet trawler in the shadow of the USS Enterprise task force illustrates the commonplace use of spy ships by major powers.

The Soviet vessel is on the same sort of mission in which the USS Pueblo was engaged when seized. The trawler Gidrolog was reported in the midst of the Enterprise's task force, which includes a guided missile ship and several destroyers.

• North Korea quoted Commander Lloyd M. Bucher as saying he believes he and his crew of the captured USS Pueblo should be punished as criminals.

"I and my crew have no excuse for we have committed a grave crime," the 38-year-old U. S. Navy officer was quoted as saying in an alleged interview broadcast by North Korea's Pyongyong Radio.

• The wife of Commander Bucher says she cannot tell for certain whether the man depicted signing a confession in a North Korean photograph is her husband. "There is a resemblance, but because of the angle it's impossible to be sure," Mrs. Rose Bucher said in San Diego.

• Naval officers at the Pentagon are privately and unofficially speaking out in behalf of Commander Bucher on whether he could or should have prevented the Pueblo from being seized.

They disclosed that one of the four North Korean vessels involved in the seizure was a 140-foot submarine chaser armed with a turret gun, antiaircraft guns which could also be aimed at surface targets, torpedoes and rocket launchers. It could reach a speed of about 30 knots.

The 179-foot Pueblo, by contrast, had a speed of only 12.2 knots and was armed with three .50-caliber machineguns.

• In New Delhi, India, Russian officials traveling with Premier Kosygin reportedly indicated that the Soviet Union is interested in freeing the Pueblo despite negative reports from Russia. They would not, however, say whether Russia has been in direct contact with North Korea.

• In Warsaw U. S. Ambassador John A. Gronouski asked Poland to help obtain the release of the Pueblo. Mr. Gronouski and an aide spent 20 minutes with Jozef Winiewicz, Polish Deputy Foreign Minister. Afterward he said he had asked for Polish help but he declined to say what was the response. Shortly before his visit an unidentified North Korean diplomat also paid a call on the foreign ministry.

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ROK Rejects Prisoner Swap

Wash. Daily News 29 Jan 68

More U. S. Units to Korea?

The crisis over the hijacking of the intelligence ship USS Pueblo entered its seventh day with a number of American military units "alerted for possible movement" to beef up U. S. strength in South Korea.

A South Korean government spokesman said in Seoul South Korea would not agree to the exchange of captured North Korean infiltrators for the Pueblo's 83 man crew.

"Common sense does not warrant such an exchange. It is sheer nonsense," the spokesman said.

Some reports said the Soviet Union and North Korea were pressing for an exchange along these lines.

PUNISHMENT PROMISED

The Vice President of North Korea, Kang Ryang, was quoted by a Syrian broadcast as saying his government would "severely punish" the Pueblo's 83 man crew.

The State Department last Friday warned the communists that any action against the crewmen would be considered a "deliberate aggravation of an already serious situation."

Kang also said the Pueblo incident was "an attempt by the United States to prepare a new war in Korea," according to the broadcast.

The Defense Department, in disclosing the alert, refused to specify which units were involved or whether they were currently stationed in the United States or the Far East. But a spokesman said the announcement covered "aircraft, ships or bodies."

Last Thursday, informed military sources in the Far East said two squadrons of Air Force fighter-bombers and interceptors — perhaps as many as 100 planes — had been flown to Osan and Kunsan, South Korean airfields 140 and 225 miles southeast of the North Korean port of Wonsan, where Pueblo and her crew were taken.

SHIP MOVEMENT

In addition, USS Canberra, a guided missile cruiser, and an escort vessel steamed out of Yokosuka harbor in Japan ahead of schedule yesterday for an undisclosed destination. Informed sources said a scheduled visit to the Japanese port by the aircraft carrier USS Yorktown had been postponed.

Authoritative sources linked the reports on Canberra and Yorktown to the Pueblo crisis. There were reports Yorktown had joined the nuclear-powered carrier USS Enterprise off North Korea.

In New York, Security Council diplomats mustered for a third discussion of the Pueblo crisis with proposals for UN mediation and inviting North Korea to its talks. The communists indicated opposition to it all.

U. S. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg said a UN mediator was one topic discussed. Canada had made the suggestion Friday when the Council came into session at American request to discuss North Korea's capture of the Pueblo.

In a TV interview (channel 13) George Ball, former Undersecretary of State, Retired Admiral Donald L. McDonald and two Harvard University professors agreed the confrontation probably would not lead to war. The two professors were Harvard Law expert Abram Chayes and Professor Henry A. Kissinger of Harvard's government department. (UPI)

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Wash Post 27 Jan 68

Russian Spy Ship Near Enterprise

A Soviet spy ship like the Pueblo is sailing right along with the carrier Enterprise and its task force off South Korea, defense officials said last night.

They identified the ferret ship as the trawler Gidroglog and pointed to her presence as an example of the international acceptance of the right of these vessels to operate on the high seas.

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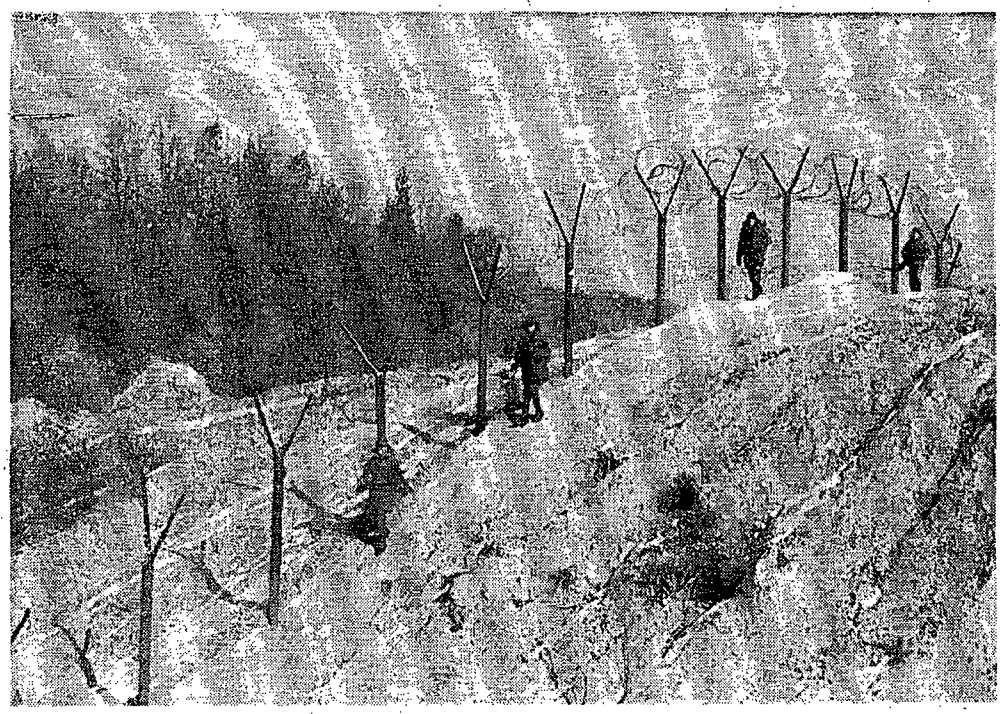

United Press International

An American patrol moves along the barbed-wire fence marking the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea. The fence, built because of increased North Korean intrusions in the past year, covers 15 miles of the 125-mile-long demarcation line. Radar and infrared detection devices also help guard the border.

PREMIER—*From Page A1*

Seoul Premier Asks 'Stern' U.S. Action

Park Chung Hee Sunday, the Premier said that unless incidents like this are stopped North Korean guerrilla activity will lead to a situation so chaotic that "we will be faced with another Korean war."

On the military front today, the U.S. 2d Division guarding the Demilitarized Zone was involved in three or four firefights with small North Korean units. One American soldier was killed. [Another American soldier was killed Friday, the AP reported.] Since Sunday 13 others have been wounded.

American and South Korean troops continued searching for the remaining members of the 31-man suicide squad that tried to kill President Park. Nineteen have been killed and one captured. South Korean casualties as of today were 16 dead and 34 wounded.

During the day, another small North Korean unit was sighted on a small island off the coast of southeastern Korea. No details were available.

Sources here say the Pueblo's capture will strengthen the influence of hard-liners in Pyongyang, boost the morale of North Korea's armed forces, give North Korea prestige among militant Communist countries and provide the Communists with important technical information about U.S. electronic spying capabilities.

In another interview, the director of operations for the South Korean joint chiefs of staff said there is a "very strong" feeling in his country's armed forces that retaliatory action should be taken against North Korea for the assassination attempt and the Pueblo seizure.

Maj. Gen. Lew Pyong Hun said the United Nations Command should take "proper action" to assure that such incidents do not recur. He said this is the responsibility of the U.N. commander, but did not specify what he considered proper action.

American officials here have been worried for several months about growing South Korean sentiment in favor of retaliation for increasing North Korean penetrations and violence. One unpublicized raid north of the DMZ occurred last summer. South Koreans often remind Americans that South Korea did not sign the 1953 armistice—but they are also aware that they cannot move without American logistic support.

Lew, former commander of the Korean Tiger Division in Vietnam, today stressed South Korea's commitment to collective security and indicated that his government is not considering taking things into its own hands at this time.

Lew indicated that South Korea would undertake more aggressive patrolling and reconnaissance across the DMZ and is re-examining its defensive posture in light of Sunday's infiltration into Seoul.

Beneath the surface there is some dissension between Americans and South Koreans. The Koreans have been pressing the United States for more modern equipment, especially destroyers for coastal patrol, helicopters for mobility and electronic detection equipment to counter infiltration. The Americans reportedly asked South Korea this week to put its army on war alert, to which the Koreans retorted that such a move would be meaningless without the requested equipment.

Americans and Koreans have disagreed about whether the 31-man assassination squad came through the American or Korean sector of the DMZ, each saying the other's sector was violated. The argument apparently has been resolved to show that the infiltrators came through both—the American sector first and then the Korean.

That the North Koreans tried to kill Park did not surprise observers here, as it was regarded as part of the pattern of rising violence that began with the ambush killing of six American and one South Korean soldier in November, 1966. In 1967, there were more than 550 penetrations and incidents perpetrated by North Korea.

Many people here were surprised, however, by the timing of the assassination attempt. Such violence was not expected until appearance of the spring foliage, which would help cover infiltration. Some authorities speculate that the North Koreans took advantage of this expectation to strike earlier.

The North Koreans have demonstrated that, despite the newly developed barrier system along the DMZ and other security precautions, well-armed men can infiltrate deep into South Korea.

The suicide squad was was spotted twice on its way toward Seoul by persons who informed the police. The police and some 6000 South Korean troops were deployed to find the band, but the North Koreans were only 500 yards from Park's official residence when they were checked at a roadblock and forced to flee after a gun battle.

50 Ships Reported Off North Korea

From News Dispatches

South Korean navy sources said yesterday that about 50 North Korean ships were assembled off North Korea's eastern coast. It was in these waters that the U.S. intelligence ship Pueblo was seized Tuesday.

The coast guard in Seoul warned fishing boats not to go near the demarcation line separating North and South Korea.

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South Korea Urges 'Stern' U.S. Action

By Richard Halloran
Washington Post Foreign Service

SEOUL, Jan. 25—The Premier of South Korea warned today that another Korean war will break out unless the United States takes "stern action" to recover the captured intelligence ship Pueblo from North Korea and the U.S.-dominated United Nations Command here finds a way to stop North Korean guerrilla infiltration and violence.

Premier Chung Il Kwon said his government's major concern is what the United States will do. If Washington does not take strong measures, he said, American leadership in Asia will be seriously threatened.

Chung said in an interview that the United States should set a time limit for the return of the Pueblo and its crew. He declined to specify what stern action he advocated, but other Korean sources indicted they want military action, possibly from the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise, now cruising in Korean waters.

If the United States does not treat North Korea firmly, Chung said, the Communists will repeat such incidents, requiring more U.S. sacrifices.

Chung said that if the United States "seems subdued" by North Korea, Pyongyang will be encouraged to engage in another war. He said North Korean Premier Kim Il Sung ordered the Pueblo to be taken to test the U.S. will to act. Kim believes the United States will not act because it is tied down in Vietnam, the Premier said.

Chung was commander in chief of his country's armed forces in the Korean war, later Ambassador to Washington and then Foreign Minister before becoming Premier. He has always advocated a hard-line policy towards Communists in Korea and Vietnam.

Referring to the attempted assassination of President

See PREMIER, A10, Col. 1

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Spy Gear Faces Rehaul

Electronic News
29 Jan 1968

By HEATHER M. DAVID and JACK ROBERTSON

WASHINGTON. — Top secret U. S. intelligence equipment will get a crash reworking as a result of the capture of the U. S. Navy Pueblo spy ship by North Korean Communists.

Military and Congressional reaction is that loss of the highly sophisticated and secret gear is a disaster. DOD officials are now facing the possibility that they will have to accelerate development of a whole new generation of equipment.

Pentagon briefings given to key Congressmen revealed that not all the Pueblo's security systems were destroyed in Capt. Lloyd M. Bucher's last-ditch attempt to scuttle the equipment.

The Pueblo's captain did trigger thermite bombs built into encryptograph equipment and recorders just before North Korean sailors landed on the deck.

But four crewmen were injured, one losing one and possibly both legs in an abortive attempt to blow up larger fixed equipment including antennas and receivers not rigged for self-destruction.

Even if no code units fell into enemy hands, the remaining electronic surveillance systems, recording and data processing aboard the ship spell a cold war bonanza for the Communists, Capitol Hill and industry sources indicated.

One of Three.

The Pueblo was one of three Banner class mini-spy ships commissioned in the past two years. It reported through the naval chain of command, but is understood to be in realtime communication with the National Security Agency.

All three vessels—the Banner, the Palm Beach and Pueblo—have been stationed in the Sea of Japan area. Armed only with machine guns, their orders are not to engage in any combat.

Sources said the Pueblo was "loaded to the hilt" with the latest in electronic surveillance equipment, although much smaller than the 7000-pound Liberty spy ships commissioned earlier.

Since virtually all intelligence gear is bought secretly, the full impact of changes may be slow coming to light.

Sources reported other United States eavesdropping systems — including the Air Force's "Big Ear" RB-47's and RC-135's and Ferret eavesdropping satellites—are likely to be affected. Many surveillance techniques are common to all systems. Getting a full look at the ship version gives the Communists insight into the other spy systems.

The Communists have also been fighting to unlock United States secrets on picking up and tracking surface-to-air (SAM) missile radars. Air Force and Navy passive electronic warfare planes regularly monitor and pinpoint location of enemy radars for later attack. United States missile-killers, such as Shrike, standard Arm and Talos Arm, use similar techniques to ride in on the enemy radar beam.

Depending on how much the Communists can dope out our radar ferreting, the air war in Vietnam may change. If the Reds can put additional fixes on their radars to evade United States monitoring, SAM hits on United States aircraft could mount.

Sensitive Ears.

The Pueblo had super-sensitive radio and radar listening ears to cover virtually the entire spectrum. The Communists have similar ability — but latest United States gear has more advanced techniques, industry believes.

This includes wideband receivers able to track continuously and record every signal within a band. Normal electronic eavesdropping sweeps across the band to pick up signals. Some signals can be lost during sweeping, and frequency hopping radar cannot be tracked well this way.

The United States also has advanced direction-finding interferometers to pinpoint location of radio and radio emitters. It is believed these calculate phase differences in two signals received on separately spaced antennas — the amount of phase differences can be traced to the emitter's location.

Intelligence ships of the Pueblo class carry sophisticated gear to detect type of modulation used on the enemy signal—AM, FM, PCM—and route the signal to the right demodulator for further analysis.

Wealth of Intelligence.

Eavesdropping operators can obtain a wealth of intelligence even from the crudest AM field telegraph-radio. Each operator has his own characteristic way of keying, and a trained specialist can learn to spot the sender. He can then track this sender day-by-day, keeping track of enemy company deployments and strategy.

Wideband United States recording gear is also expected to get thorough Communist dissection. The United States has embargoed the export of wideband pre-detection tape recorders to prevent their falling into enemy hands. Now, apparently, the Communists have a first-hand look if they had not before.

The Pueblo is believed to carry some data processing for a "quick look" analysis at least. Computers are used to pick extremely weak signals out of a high noise background—as well as identifying the type of signal.

The fact of Pueblo's real-time communications capability in addition to on-board processing for helicopter pickup was indicated by the Pentagon itself.

DOD officials said North Korea's own radar track showed Pueblo to be in international waters. Presumably, this was revealed in data from the Pueblo monitored by Naval Security or NSA.

The North Korean charge that the ship had violated its waters was dismissed by knowledgeable military sources. "This is a very sophisticated ship — it doesn't have to get right up to the keyhole."

Contractors that have worked with the Navy on the kind of receiver sets carried by the Pueblo include Electronics International, Decitron, Collins Radio, General Electronics, Scope and Clavier.

Sanders Associates also makes a highly sophisticated submarine radio directon finder set, but Navy sources would not confirm whether that specific equipment was aboard the vessel.

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THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 30, 1968

Johnson Budget Asks $6 Billion For Intelligence

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 (UPI). — President Johnson apparently lifted the lid a bit Monday on where the money goes for financing intelligence operations such as that performed by the USS Pueblo.

Mr. Johnson's new defense budget contained a $6.3 billion item for "intelligence and communications." The Pueblo, captured last week by North Korean gunboats, admittedly was on an intelligence mission.

The $6.3 billion presumably is for the Defense Intelligence Agency, military counterpart of the Central Intelligence Agency, and perhaps too for the CIA and National Security Agency, another civilian intelligence operation.

Although past budgets carried no such item, the fiscal 1969 request noted that the $6.3 billion was $600 million more than for the current fiscal year. It said this reflected "improvements in our advanced command and communications systems" — and was $1 billion more than fiscal 1967.

The budget report added: "in addition to communications and general space support systems, this category includes intelligence and security functions, weather service and oceanography."

The budget did refer to CIA but it was noninformative as ever. CIA's operating funds are concealed in budgets of other agencies and only a few congressmen apparently realize it when they vote the funds.

The new budget carries only the heading "construction" for the CIA. It shows that $223 million is being spent this fiscal year on the new headquarters building, located in nearby Virginia, and for a "facility designed for classified printing."

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North Korea broke custom on U.S.-Soviet spy ships

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

By Saville R. Davis
Staff correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

January 30, 1968 Washington

The affair of the Pueblo is proving more difficult to quiet down than most similar incidents—of which there have been many during the cold war—in the field of intelligence gathering.

"If it had been between us and the Soviet Union," said a specialist in the field of these incidents here, "it would have been under control by now. We are both up to our necks in reconnaissance by air, sea, and land. Each side knows the other can easily retaliate. We have learned by experience to leave the other fellow alone, for the most part, in order to protect our own intelligence work.

"But in the case of the Pueblo," he continued, "it was a small country that stepped in and created a spectacular incident. The press and public opinion was aroused and to a degree inflamed. Many Americans thought we ought to clobber the small country and were frustrated when we didn't."

He went on the explain that two major factors were involved in the Pueblo case that would not have been present in an incident involving the two great powers. There are some signs that North Korea is "spoiling for the chance" of again trying to seize South Korea, at a time when that country and its protector, the United States, are preoccupied in Vietnam.

It is also possible that the affair was planned, by both smaller and large elements in the Communist world, to divert American force from Vietnam. A big battle seems to be impending there. If it comes, it would be an all-out push by Hanoi to send the Americans reeling backward from the demilitarized zone, just as peace talks again become a possibility, in order to influence their outcome.

However this may be, President Johnson is continuing his military build-up in the Korean theater at this writing, by bringing up aircraft and a second naval task force. He went out of his way to assure the public, in his brief television appearance, that he was aware of the danger of being forced to subtract forces from the Vietnam fronts, and that the buildup around Korea would not do this.

At the same time, diplomacy and discretion seem to be slowly gaining the upper hand at this writing.

Behind the usual strong criticism of the United States and its "imperialist machinations" the Soviet line at the United Nations Security Council is thought here to be comparatively moderate. Behind Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin's apparent statement in New Delhi that he was "sure" the Pueblo had invaded Korean territorial waters, he also seems to have been constructive.

Argument advanced

Quotations from usually dependable Soviet and Indian sources in Delhi have Mr. Kosygin telling Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi that there might have been a "genuine mistake." He also said, like a man who understands the espionage business, that there might have been "deliberate straying."

On the other hand, it is argued here that North Korea is in an emotionally inflammatory state and cannot be relied upon to act with discretion. It may not listen to Moscow. Various public and private American sources have pointed out that the crew of the Pueblo might be killed in retaliation for a military assault by the United States, small or large, designed to force return of the Pueblo or its men.

The Soviet Union plays by the rules of the intelligence game and would not do this. North Korea might. And it has no intelligence ships, like the big powers, which could be seized in a carefully measured reprisal.

President Johnson is playing it carefully as this goes to press. The kind of force that he is moving up close to North Korea is not designed for a land war. It is naval and air force which could be used locally in the event of another incident. The President is resisting the cry from American militants to "do something," and these demands are considered to be much less strident than might have been the case. The wiser conservative heads in Congress, for example, who might normally jump on the President for inaction, are in effect supporting his efforts to use diplomacy first.

As the days pass, more information is becoming available to the general public about the nature of intelligence gathering. It is learned, for example, that a sister ship of the Pueblo, the Banner, was surrounded for 2½ hours by 11 patrol boats while operating in unspecified "Far Eastern waters."

Nothing came of it. But "harassments" of all sorts from North Korea have been building rapidly, and the New York Times carries a report that North Korea "publicly" warned, after the Pueblo left on its latest voyage two weeks ago, that it would take action against "spy ships."

Meanwhile, the long history of cold-war incidents involving espionage is being reviewed here. They usually were directly between the Soviet Union and the United States. The normal procedure was for exchanges of charges and countercharges, plus retention of the reconaissance-plane crews—the incidents usually involved aircraft—by the Soviet Union. Then after quiet was restored, and negotiations could be undertaken in private, the crew would be released—but never the aircraft. With North Korea involved this time, and a ship instead of an aircraft, no one would predict the outcome.

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PUEBLO CREWMAN DEAD, U.S. IS TOLD

N Y Times 31 Jan 1968

Pentagon Says Reports That Sailors Get Medical Care Cannot Be Confirmed

(13)

By HEDRICK SMITH
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30—The Defense Department said tonight that it had received word that one crew member of the intelligence ship Pueblo, captured eight days ago by North Korea, had died.

The statement was issued by the Pentagon a few hours after the White House said that the United States had been informed that the 83-man crew of the Pueblo was being "properly treated" and given necessary medical aid.

A Pentagon spokesman, without disclosing the source of the Government's information, said that the United States was "not able to confirm the reliability of these reports" or to attempt to identify any casualties among the crew.

[At the United Nations, the Hungarian delegation, apparently in touch with North Korea, reported to other members of the Security Council that one crew member had died and the others were being well treated.]

Broadcast Recalled

Phil G. Goulding, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, recalled that at the time of her seizure off the Korean coast on Jan. 23, the Pueblo had radioed that three or four of her crewmen had been wounded and injured. One man's leg was blown off and another was critically injured, it was reported.

"We cannot say whether there is a connection between the ship's message of a man critically injured and the unconfirmed report from other sources that there is one man dead," Mr. Goulding explained.

The indications were that these unconfirmed reports had come through diplomatic channels. The White House and the State Department said that there had been no word from the International Committee of the Red Cross, which the United States had asked to look into the welfare of the crew with the object of arranging the immediate return of wounded crewmen.

George Christian, the White House press secretary, emphasized that the Government was still hoping that diplomatic, rather than military, efforts could free the Pueblo crew, without setting any time limit for diplomacy.

"We remain hopeful that diplomatic efforts will succeed," Mr. Christian said. "But I haven't heard anyone express any time limit about this thing." Other officials have indicated that they expect the diplomatic maneuvering to carry on for weeks rather than days.

The United States has approached the Soviet Union at least twice and has sought assistance from such other nations as Indonesia and Japan.

Officials have privately conceded that the Administration blundered initially by disclosing its first approach to Moscow. Since then, they said, the Russians have felt obligated to maintain the appearance of solidarity with their Communist allies in North Korea. But Washington has not given up hope that the Russians will prove to be helpful in resolving the crisis.

Situation 'Too Fluid'

Mr. Christian said that the Pueblo situation was "too fluid" for him to discuss what actions the United States might take. He said that the United States would "do whatever we can" through contacts at the United Nations.

Asked whether the United States would approve of North Korea's participation in Security Council discussions of the incident, he replied that "they haven't made a request to appear before the Security Council.

"If such a request is forthcoming, we would respond to it" in the course of the Security Council discussions, he added.

Neither North Korea nor South Korea is a member of the United Nations. In the past, North Korea has denounced the United Nations, but some diplomats have reported in the last few days that North Korea would be willing to take part in broad talks at the Security Council. The United States is fearful that, in this event, the Pueblo incident might be submerged by other issues in dispute between North and South Korea.

In another development, a Republican Congressman contended that the American "military reaction to the North Korean seizure" of the Pueblo had been delayed until it was too late to save the ship, apparently because the Pueblo had been under the direct command" of Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara rather than the Navy Department.

Representative Henry Schadeburg, Republican of Wisconsin, issued a statement saying that he had learned that the Pueblo was responsible to the National Security Agency, the Defense Department's agency for monitoring and breaking enemy codes, rather than the office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

The Representative added that, if his information was accurate, "McNamara's Pentagon band of civilian warriors must be responsible for the tw hour delay in military reaction to the North Korean seizure of the Pueblo."

The Pentagon issued a denial of Representative Schadeburg's charges tonight, asserting that the Pueblo was operating under the normal Navy chain of command and that the National Security Agency "was in no way involved."

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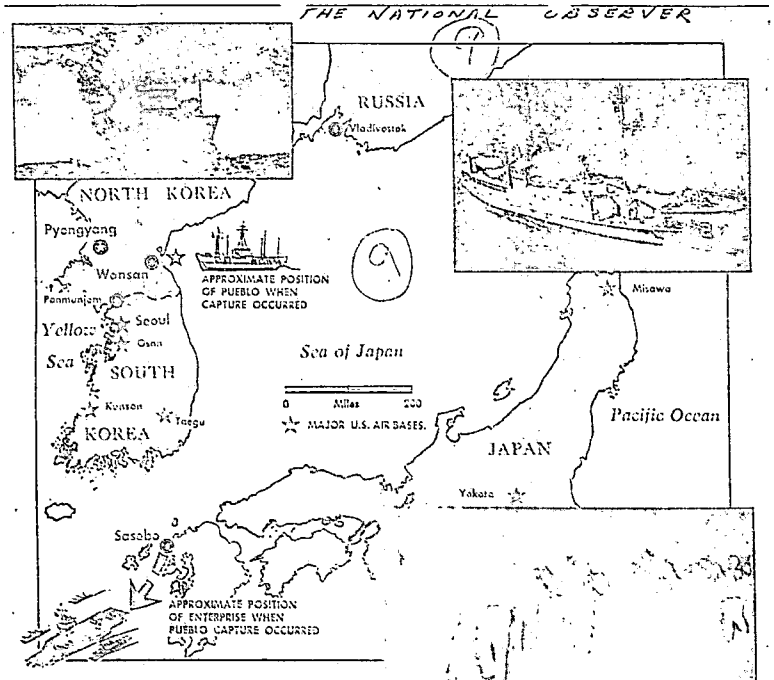
MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1968

THE NATIONAL OBSERVER



Russian-built patrol boats (upper left) captured the U.S.S. Pueblo (top right) off Wonsan. Crew was taken ashore under guard, hands up.

—Photographs from U.S. Navy, Sovfoto, and AP

The Pueblo Incident

Over a Little Ship, a Mighty Drama

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Words here in Washington, like people, have their ups and downs. "Crunch," meaning an international crisis, was an up word not long ago. Th... it was "escalation," meaning a raising of the military ante. Last week it was "... parlo."

And what a bizarre, incredible, and irrational scenario—or st... it was. A strange little warship of the United States Navy, the world's mildest, was captured on the high seas without a shot fired in anger by patrol boats of the infinitesimally small North Korean navy. The ship and all 83 members of its highly trained crew were taken into Wo...an, North Korean port. And there it ... —the U.S.S. Pueblo — and all th... mai... ayed, despite frenzied and some ... ...fused efforts by the Johnson Ad... ...ist...on to write a happy ending.

In Washington, ...on, the scenario became a crunch, a... ...ob...ly it all added up to an esca... of an already overheated international situation.

It was Monday evening here when the drama began. It was, to start with, an ordinary sort of evening. Over cocktails and at dinner, people, especially the women, were still talking about Eartha Kitt's celebrated outburst at a White House luncheon. Others, especially the men, were considering the implications of the night's biggest news story—the crash in Greenland of a B-52 bomber carrying four H-bombs.

Digging In for Battle

In Vietnam, it was already Tuesday, and Marines at Khe Sanh were digging in for what may become the biggest and bloodiest battle in a war that ordinarily monopolizes Washington's conversation and decision-making. (For that story, see Page 5.)

At 10 o'clock Monday evening in Washington, it was noon Tuesday off the coast of North Korea. The weather there was cloudy; the temperature was about 32 degrees, almost unseasonably warm for this time of year in that part of the world, and the wind was gentle at five knots.

The Pueblo was, according to U.S. reports, more than 12 miles off the North Korean coastline, rocking gently and barely moving, b... for ... meeting w... hanging over ... ...ides. ...ecchio...e research, reporte... was ... of ... ...sion, and the fact ... she ... ...ve civ... hydrographers ... ...d ser... ...cate that cont...

Assisting in the preparation of this report, written by James M. Perry, were James R. D... ...Ro... Lawrence Mosher, etc. Ju... ...ski.

But the Pu... was im... ...more ... an innocent ... ...ographer ... ...antly, she w... ...electro... ...ferret, a new ... of atom...age ... Among her crew were some 24 ...ications technicians; these naval ...ists are often assigned to the Naval Security Group, and the group often reports directly to the top-secret National Security Agency, with headquarters at Fort Meade, Md.

Refitted at Bremerton

The Pueblo didn't begin life as anything special. She was built as a small cargo ship, one of hundreds of her kind that tramp from one small port to another, often hugging the coastlines. In her early years, Pueblo was assigned to the Army, routinely performing mundane duties. It was in the summer of 1965 that Pueblo was ordered to the Bremerton, Wash., shipyard. There, she went through an overhaul and a refitting that took 14 months to complete. She was commissioned as a Navy warship on May 12, 1967, and she sailed into the Pacific for her specialized new duties on Sept. 11.

To the untrained eye, she still looked much the same. She was still 179 feet long and 33 feet wide, and she still had a shallow draft of 10.2 feet. Her tonnage was listed as 960. Her speed—a slow 12.2 knots—hadn't changed, but she did now carry three .50-caliber machine guns, a very light, almost symbolic armament.

But a trained eye could see the difference. Her two masts were clustered with radar. Just forward of the mainmast were twin antenna experts called Yagis; they're used to pinpoint the direction of incoming signals. Once those signals are pinpointed, other sophisticated gear picks them up and transcribes them. Long poles at the bow and at the stern probably were designed to carry cables that transmit other messages. The squared-off, boxlike windowless section amidships probably contained tape-recording apparatus to transcribe those messages and signals being intercepted by the other gear.

Intercepting ... Radar

So at noon o... Tuesday, Pueblo time, this unusual sh... was stationed, lightly armed and unest...ed, off ... hostile shore. Her electron... g... wa... ...ouht carefully aimed at the ...orth ... ...coastline; those tape recorders ...ro... were quietly turning, taking down the intercepted signals from North Korean radar. Perhaps other gear was tuned in to North Korean commercial and military radio, taping all that too. It is even possible that Pueblo was listening in to the conversations of airborne North Korean airplanes.

In command was Lt. Cmdr. Lloyd Bucher, 30, commissioned in the Navy in 1953, a graduate of subm...ne school in 1955. He had attended U... ...ous Boys Town in Nebraska, w... his former teachers and coaches re... ...der him now with respect and affection. The Pueblo was his first command.

It was at 10 p.m., Washington time, on Monday (and at noon on Tuesday, Korean time) that a N... Korean patrol boat first was sighted by the Pueblo. Just where was the Pueblo at that precise moment? It becomes a key question, because if the Pueblo were inside the 12-mile limit the North Koreans were probably within their rights to take some kind of action. But if the Pueblo were outside that 12-mile limit, the North Koreans had no right, under international law, to take any action whatsoever.

It is on this point that the cumulative bits of information released by the Pentagon, and other American sources, are somewhat confused. And the North Koreans, of course, disagree sharply with all of the American assertions.

The Pentagon, in its first statement about the Pueblo, stated that the boarding—the boarding, not the first sighting—occurred "25 miles from mainland of North Korea." Later, a Pentagon spokesman was asked if there w... ...ny difference between the locations re...rted at 10 p.m., Washington time, when ... North Korean boat first was sighte... ...d at 11:45 p.m., Washington time, w... ...orth Korean sailors boarded the P... ...His answer was that the Pueblo w... virtually the same location at both times. In other words, according to the Pentagon, the Pueblo did not get under way after sighting the patrol boats, but shift her position.

Yet, at another Pentagon briefing, a spokesman said that the sighting and the boarding occurred 25 miles from Wonsan. That's an important distinction, because of the geography of the North Korean coastline in the Wonsan area. The city of Wonsan is a protected harbor on the inland side of a half-moon bay. So, if the Pueblo were 25 miles from Wonsan, she would probably have been only some 10 miles off the shoreline of the peninsula that forms the northern and outer edge of Wonsan Bay. That being so, she was only some 4 miles beyond the 12-mile limit. The 10-mile figure is, in fact, the one cited by Rear Adm. John V. Smith in his stormy confrontation with the North Koreans at Panmunjom.

The first North Korean statement about Pueblo's capture was couched in the usual belligerent Communist rhetoric, and it gave no precise location for the capture other than to say that the American ship—"an armed spy ship of the imperialist aggressor force," it called Pueblo—had "intruded way into the ter-

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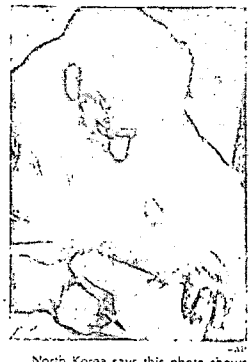
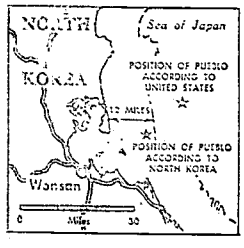


North Korea says this photo shows Cmdr. Bucher signing 'confession.'



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The Pueblo Incident

An Ominous Scenario Unfolds Around a Curious Little Warship

Continued From Page One

ritorial waters of the republic and was carrying out hostile activities."

Thereafter, the North Koreans released a highly suspicious "confession" by Commander Bucher, in which he purports to place the Pueblo a mere 7.6 miles from North Korean territory. At that same stormy session at Panmunjom, North Korean Gen. Park Chung Kook placed the Pueblo in a position that would have been about nine miles off the peninsula that guards the entrance to Wonsan Bay and some 15 miles from the city of Wonsan itself.

That wasn't the end of it either. The Defense Department finally released figures it said had been taken from radar tracks of the North Koreans themselves. By their own radar data, said the Pentagon, the Pueblo was some 16 miles off the coastline.

The confusion may never be cleared up to everyone's satisfaction. And one question has never been touched on at all by the Pentagon: Where was Pueblo even earlier on the day of her capture, or the day before? The North Koreans seemed to be saying at Panmunjom that she had been slowly moving up the North Korean coastline for two or three days, starting at a point close to the demilitarized zone that separates North and South Korea.

Why Didn't He Run?

The evidence does seem to suggest that Commander Bucher must have believed he was safely in international waters. If he had been an intruder, it would seem that he might have turned and run at the first sight of hostile shipping, radioing for help at the same time.

It was at noon Korean time that the first North Korean patrol boat approached. In his presentation at the United Nations on Friday, Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg noted that the Pueblo radioed a report. It said: "U.S.S. Pueblo encountered one SO-1 class North Korean patrol boat" at noon Korean time. The Pueblo then reported its position and added it was "D.I.W." meaning dead in the water. Ambassador Goldberg, pointing to a map, stressed that the reported position of the Pueblo put her 16.3 miles from the nearest point on the North Korean mainland. He also said that messages intercepted from the North Korean patrol boat, which he identified as submarine chaser No. 35, put that ship within a mile of Pueblo's reported position.

According to Mr. Goldberg, the communist patrol boat then used international signal flags to request Pueblo's nationality. Pueblo, replying also with flags, identified herself as an American vessel. To that, the North Korean signaled: "Heave to, or I will open fire on you." Pueblo replied: "I am in international waters."

The North Korean patrol boat then began circling Pueblo, and within less than an hour three more patrol boats joined her. Two MiG jet fighters appeared and circled overhead. At this point it was 11 p.m. Monday, Washington time. And still Pueblo failed to call for help.

Why was this? Defenders of Commander Bucher theorize that he believed all along that the actions of the North Korean patrol boats were consistent with their long history of general harassment of American ships in that area. It had happened many times before, Navy spokesmen argue; Commander Bucher thought it was just another incident in a long series.

The Pueblo Crewmen: Naive?

And there is this much to consider too: Commander Bucher was not an old hand at this sort of thing. His ship had been in commission for only about four months; it was, after all, his first command. And it was not an ordinary Navy warship, carrying among its complement salty combat veterans. Most of Pueblo's crew members were technicians and specialists, not fighting men. To put it bluntly, Pueblo and her crew may have been naive.

It was at 11:45 p.m., Washington time, that Pueblo radioed that she was being boarded by armed North Koreans. Even then, say some Navy officers, Commander Bucher may not have fully realized his danger. He may still have thought it was a provocation, no more.

Perhaps. But an enemy party boarding an American ship of war is hardly an ordinary event. Long ago, the Navy held "repel boarders" drill, but that goes almost all the way back to the old sailing Navy. Being boarded may have been such a surprise that it left the crew of the Pueblo immobile, one Navy officer theorizes. Even if Pueblo had been fully alert, there probably was not much it could have done. Pueblo carried only three machine guns and—Pentagon officials say—the protective canvas was never removed from any of them. This, of course, is in contrast to North Korean insistence that the Pueblo opened fire on the patrol boats.

There are Americans, however, who protest that the Pueblo should at least have fired a round—"for the flag," so to speak. U.S. Rep. William R. Anderson, who before his retirement from the Navy was skipper of the nuclear submarine, Nautilus, recalls that he was taught at the Naval Academy: "Never give up your ship."

Once again, though, Pueblo was an unusual ship on an unusual mission. Ordinary customs, traditions, and even standard Navy regulations may not have applied to her. Late last week, as a matter of fact, information leaked from the Pentagon hinting that Pueblo was under specific orders to avoid any kind of action that might precipitate an international incident.

The Pueblo presumably had special "destruct" devices aboard to destroy her secret files and her secret equipment. Ordinarily, Navy officials indicated, it would have taken about 30 minutes to destroy everything that might be useful to an enemy. Some of the files and some of the equipment probably were destroyed after the North Koreans came aboard. The four crew members who reportedly were wounded probably received their injuries from explosions they touched off themselves. However, officials believe there was not enough time to carry out the "destruct" plans completely.

The Pueblo radioed for help at 11:45 p.m., Washington time. It was at 12:32 a.m., almost an hour later, that Pueblo radioed she had come "all stop" and that she was "going off the air."

No Planes Ready to Fly?

To be sure, it wasn't much time to respond. Yet, no ships began steaming to her aid, perhaps because there were none near her. And no airplanes took off from anywhere to lend assistance. Why not? There were 12 Phantom jets based in South Korea, probably at the air base called K-55 at Osan. Half of these aircraft were on alert—for a nuclear war. They were equipped to deliver atomic bombs, and, Pentagon spokesmen indicated, it would have taken up to three hours to re-equip them to carry out conventional strikes.

The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Enterprise had just left Sasebo, in Japan, heading for duty off Vietnam when Pueblo was captured. Her planes—and she carries more than 100 of them—should have been within range. Moreover, scores of U.S. planes are based in Japan and Okinawa, and at least some of them were within range. The reason they weren't sent to Pueblo's aid is apparently because high-ranking commanders didn't know precisely what was happening.

Enterprise and the ships accompanying her were instructed to change course and proceed towards Korea. Late last week, Enterprise was presumed to have taken up position within striking distance of North Korea. Moreover, squadrons of fighters and fighter-bombers were rushed from Okinawa to South Korea. But all those precautions were taken, of course, *ex post facto*.

Some decisions were made, . . . act, without the knowledge or approval of leaders of the Defense establishment, . . . in Washington. It was not, for example, until 2 a.m. that President Johnson got the news of Pueblo's capture.

By then, it was — to all practical purposes — over.

U.S. Officials on the Defensive

The question then became: How does the United States get her ship and her men safely back? It was not an easy question. Government officials, obviously on the defensive, pointed out that this "crunch" was far different than John Kennedy's "crunch" over the Russian missiles in Cuba. Mr. Kennedy had advance warning that the missiles were on their way; he had time to write a scenario to take the enemy down. But with the Pueblo, there was no time. Before anyone knew what was happening, it was all over.

Early efforts to retrieve ship and crew were diplomatic. There was that name-calling session at Panmunjom; it accomplished nothing (except that, for the first time, North Korea's Gen. Park Chung Kook lost his temper). American diplomats sought to have Russia intervene with North Korea. The evidence seemed to indicate that the Russians hadn't even passed along the American message to their sometime Communist ally.

Responding With a Call-up

When in doubt, there is one move that is fast becoming traditional — call up some reserves. That was President Kennedy's response over Berlin in 1961, when 148,000 reservists were called to duty. That was the response again over Cuba in 1962, when 14,000 reservists were summoned. And that was Mr. Johnson's response last Thursday: he called up 14,787 air reservists, enough to supply an additional 372 much-needed aircraft to the Air Force and Navy.

Another response is as obvious as it is traditional — call for an emergency meeting of the United Nation's Security Council. Mr. Johnson exercised that option too—and the Security Council met late Friday. No one, however, expected that the council would take very forceful action.

There is still a third move—so on television, Mr. Johnson made that move on Friday. He said that the Security Council would meet and that the United States was preparing to meet any threat. Everyone already knew that much.

So the week slipped away with many questions still hanging. Chief among them: How do we resolve the immediate problem; that is, how do we get the ship and the crew back? And the other, broader, question: What does it all mean?

A Calculated Move

Perhaps the second question was easier to answer than the first. Most Americans with diplomatic expertise believed the North Korean capture of the Pueblo was a calculated move to embarrass and distract the United States; that it was an effort to engage American might somewhere else than on the battlefields of Vietnam.

The experts pointed to a growing list of incidents in Korea, including the recent attempt by North Korean infiltrators to blow up the Blue House, South Korea's equivalent of Washington's White House.

The North Koreans, these experts say, are angry about growing prosperity in South Korea and humiliated over the fact that South Korea has sent 47,000 of its soldiers to fight in South Vietnam. They want to help their fellow Communists, and this is one way of providing assistance.

Others say the capture of the Pueblo is such an irrational act, such an incredible scenario, that it defies rational analysis. They may be right. —JAMES M. PERRY

Britain: The 51st State?

A "segment of the British community" would be ready to accept U.S. statehood for the island nation, a London banker said. Sir John Stevens, managing director of Morgan Grenfell & Co., told a bankers' luncheon in Salt Lake City that "many people have felt quite warm about the prospect of joining the United States." Becoming the 51st state might solve some of Great Britain's financial ailments, he declared.

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